



Taming the Times Table

A step-by-Step Guide

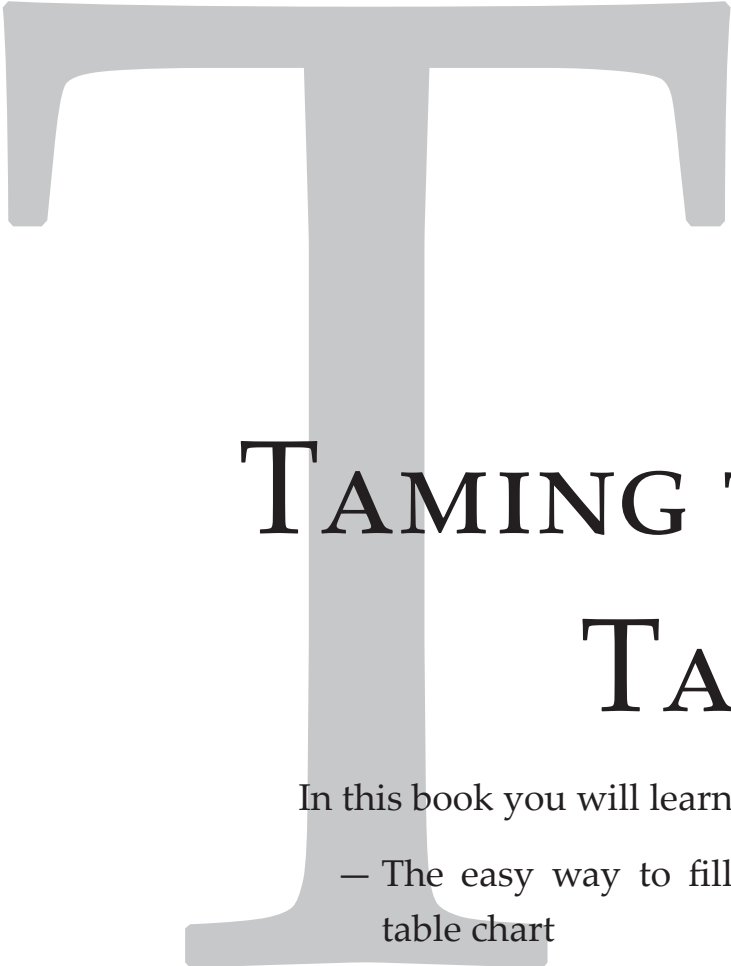
from the author of

**Milestone Maths
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TAMING THE TABLE

In this book you will learn:

- The easy way to fill in a times table chart
- Some multiplication strategies

Taming the Tables

First Edition (2026)

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Introduction

Most students are taught to memorise the multiplication tables as a long list of facts. This can feel overwhelming, and for many children it turns into slow, frustrating work.

This book takes a different approach.

Instead of trying to learn everything at once, we build the table step by step by looking for patterns. Each lesson shows you how to fill in part of the table using ideas you already understand. As you move through the book, the number of unknown facts gets smaller and smaller.

What begins as a 10×10 table with 100 facts quickly shrinks to a much smaller problem. By the end, only a handful of facts need to be remembered.

This approach helps students see how the table fits together, rather than treating each fact as something separate to memorise. It develops number sense and makes the learning process feel more like solving a puzzle than completing a drill.

For best results, work through the lessons in order. Each lesson should be repeated until the table can be completed accurately and without hesitation.

Of course, students will still need to recall these facts quickly and independently. Short, regular practice is the best way to build this fluency. The Milestone Maths Learn and Practice Multiplication Facts book is designed to support this.

I wish you well as you help your child make sense of the multiplication table.

Kathy Gonzalez

Author and Founder, Milestone Maths.

Lesson 1

Pre-Test

Fill out as many squares as you can in the table below. You may time yourself if you like so you can track your progress as you go through this book!

Check your answers with the completed table in the back of this book.

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

Lesson 2

The First Row and Column

One times anything is the anything and anything times one is also the anything, so filling in the first row and column is super easy. You are really just counting by one! Fill in the missing numbers in the table below.

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2		4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3		6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4		8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5		10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6		12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7		14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8		16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9		18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10		20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Lesson 3

The Second Row and Column

Two times a number is just the number added to itself. Another way to think of the second row and column is to count by twos starting at 2. Both of these should be pretty easy, if not. Practice counting by two for a few days before filling in the blanks below:

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3			9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4			12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5			15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6			18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7			21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8			24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9			27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10			30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Lesson 4

The Tenth Row and Column

Do you know the secret to multiplying a number by 10? All you need to do is “tack on a zero.” You can also count by tens to fill in the tenth row and column.

Practice both these ideas for a day or two and then fill in the blanks in the table below.

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3			9	12	15	18	21	24	27	
4			12	16	20	24	28	32	36	
5			15	20	25	30	35	40	45	
6			18	24	30	36	42	48	54	
7			21	28	35	42	49	56	63	
8			24	32	40	48	56	64	72	
9			27	36	45	54	63	72	81	
10										

Have you noticed that the square of the ones you “don’t know” is shrinking? We started out with 100 and there’s only 49 left!

Lesson 5

The Fifth Row and Column

Counting by fives is a pattern most people find pretty easy. The ones digit just keeps swapping from 5 to 0 and the tens digit slowly counts up. If you don't already know it, practice it for a few days, then fill in the missing numbers in the table below:

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3			9	12		18	21	24	27	
4			12	16		24	28	32	36	
5										
6			18	24		36	42	48	54	
7			21	28		42	49	56	63	
8			24	32		48	56	64	72	
9			27	36		54	63	72	81	
10										

Only 36 squares left to learn!

Lesson 6

Counting by Nines

The nine times table has a lot of very interesting patterns hiding in it. Today we're just going to look at counting by nines up to 90.

Look at the nine times table below. I've written the facts out so that all the digits and symbols line up neatly. See if you can spot some patterns before I show you the one I'm interested in today!

1	×	9	=	9
2	×	9	=	18
3	×	9	=	27
4	×	9	=	36
5	×	9	=	45
6	×	9	=	54
7	×	9	=	63
8	×	9	=	72
9	×	9	=	81
10	×	9	=	90

Have you spotted any patterns? Tell someone if you have! If not, here are some clues...

Do you know what the digit sum of a number is from last year? It's the sum of the digits in the number. So the digit sum of 52 is $5 + 2 = 7$. Find the digit sum of each of the answers in the nine times table. Notice something interesting? Yes! Every digit sum is 9! This will be a very important fact to remember for next year!

Here's another interesting pattern: look at the tens (first) digit of all the answers. Notice what's happening? Yep! They count UP.

Now look at the units (second) digits of the answers. What's happening now? That's right: they're counting DOWN from 9 to 0!

Keep that pattern in mind and practice counting by nines for a bit!

Lesson 7

The Ninth Row and Column

Once you've practised counting by nines for a few days, fill in the missing numbers in the table below.

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3			9	12		18	21	24		
4			12	16		24	28	32		
5										
6			18	24		36	42	48		
7			21	28		42	49	56		
8			24	32		48	56	64		
9										
10										

Only 25 squares left to learn!

Lesson 8

The Fourth Row and Column

The four times table is just double the two times table. So filling in the fourth row and column is super simple. Have a go!

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3			9			18	21	24		
4										
5										
6			18			36	42	48		
7			21			42	49	56		
8			24			48	56	64		
9										
10										

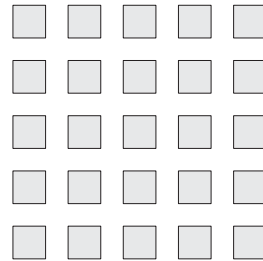
Only 16 squares left to learn!

Lesson 9

Square Numbers

When we multiply a number by itself, we call the result a square number. That's because the array representing the multiplication looks like a square. For example:

$$5 \times 5 = 25$$



Square numbers are very important and useful in maths, so it's a good idea to learn them. Most people find them pretty easy to learn. Here they all are for you to practice.

$$1 \times 1 = 1$$

$$2 \times 2 = 4$$

$$3 \times 3 = 9$$

$$4 \times 4 = 16$$

$$5 \times 5 = 25$$

$$6 \times 6 = 36$$

$$7 \times 7 = 49$$

$$8 \times 8 = 64$$

$$9 \times 9 = 81$$

$$10 \times 10 = 100$$

Lesson 10

The Main Diagonal

The squares in the grid below that I've coloured blue are where the square numbers go. Fill them in first!

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3						18	21	24		
4										
5										
6			18							
7			21							
8			24							
9										
10										

Only 12 squares left to learn!

Lesson 11

The Third Row and Column

To multiply by three we can “double plus one” - we double the number we’re multiplying by three and then add the number onto the answer.

For example $3 \times 7 = 2 \times 7 + 7 = 14 + 7 = 21$.

You can also just practice counting by threes. It’s only slightly trickier than 2’s.

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6							42	48		
7						42		56		
8						48	56			
9										
10										

Only 6 squares left to learn!

Lesson 12

The “Hard” Facts

There’s only six squares we haven’t filled in yet. But, wait! Have you noticed that the table is actually symmetrical around the diagonal. This means every fact appears twice (for example, 6×7 and 7×6). So instead of learning six new facts, we really **only need to learn three!**

See how you go filling in the table below!

$\times$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										

We’re done!

Lesson 13

Practice Table 1

The sequence we've used in this book makes it easy to fill in the times table, but you'll eventually have to be able to fill in any row or column on it's own. The next few pages will have tables with a different row and column to fill in.

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1										
2		4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3		6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4		8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5		10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6		12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7		14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8		16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9		18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10		20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Lesson 14

Practice Table 2

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2										
3	3		9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	4		12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	5		15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	6		18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7	7		21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	8		24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	9		27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10	10		30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Lesson 15

Practice Table 3

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	2	4		8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3										
4	4	8		16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	5	10		20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	6	12		24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7	7	14		28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	8	16		32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	9	18		36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10	10	20		40	50	60	70	80	90	100

Lesson 16

Practice Table 4

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3		5	6	7	8	9	10
2	2	4	6		10	12	14	16	18	20
3	3	6	9		15	18	21	24	27	30
4										
5	5	10	15		25	30	35	40	45	50
6	6	12	18		30	36	42	48	54	60
7	7	14	21		35	42	49	56	63	70
8	8	16	24		40	48	56	64	72	80
9	9	18	27		45	54	63	72	81	90
10	10	20	30		50	60	70	80	90	100

Lesson 17

Practice Table 5

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
2	2	4	6	8		12	14	16	18	20
3	3	6	9	12		18	21	24	27	30
4	4	8	12	16		24	28	32	36	40
5										
6	6	12	18	24		36	42	48	54	60
7	7	14	21	28		42	49	56	63	70
8	8	16	24	32		48	56	64	72	80
9	9	18	27	36		54	63	72	81	90
10	10	20	30	40		60	70	80	90	100

Lesson 18

Practice Table 6

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3	4	5		7	8	9	10
2	2	4	6	8	10		14	16	18	20
3	3	6	9	12	15		21	24	27	30
4	4	8	12	16	20		28	32	36	40
5	5	10	15	20	25		35	40	45	50
6										
7	7	14	21	28	35		49	56	63	70
8	8	16	24	32	40		56	64	72	80
9	9	18	27	36	45		63	72	81	90
10	10	20	30	40	50		70	80	90	100

Lesson 19

Practice Table 7

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3	4	5	6		8	9	10
2	2	4	6	8	10	12		16	18	20
3	3	6	9	12	15	18		24	27	30
4	4	8	12	16	20	24		32	36	40
5	5	10	15	20	25	30		40	45	50
6	6	12	18	24	30	36		48	54	60
7										
8	8	16	24	32	40	48		64	72	80
9	9	18	27	36	45	54		72	81	90
10	10	20	30	40	50	60		80	90	100

Lesson 20

Practice Table 8

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		9	10
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14		18	20
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21		27	30
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28		36	40
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35		45	50
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42		54	60
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49		63	70
8										
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63		81	90
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70		90	100

Lesson 21

Practice Table 9

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		10
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16		20
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24		30
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32		40
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40		50
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48		60
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56		70
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64		80
9										
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80		100

Lesson 22

Practice Table 10

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	
10										

Lesson 23

Practice Table 11

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	2		6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3	3	6		12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	4	8	12		20	24	28	32	36	40
5	5	10	15	20		30	35	40	45	50
6	6	12	18	24	30		42	48	54	60
7	7	14	21	28	35	42		56	63	70
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56		72	80
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72		90
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	

Lesson 24

The Complete Table (Answer Key)

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100

There's heaps of patterns in the multiplication table we've not looked at in this book. Can you find any?

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