



## Ordering large numbers

When you have a series of large numbers, which are not in number order, it is sometimes difficult to make sense of them.

Here is a table showing the daily profits of a supermarket written in order of days.

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Profit	£5 934	£7 656	£7 573	£8 678	£10 834	£14 976	£5 004

If these numbers were put into a place value table, it would be easier to arrange them in order.

Days	TTH	Th	H	T	U
Mon		5	9	3	4
Tue		7	6	5	6
Wed		7	5	7	3
Thu		8	6	7	8
Fri	1	0	8	3	4
Sat	1	4	9	7	6
Sun		5	0	0	4

Look at each column in turn. The figures for Friday and Saturday will be the largest as these have figures in the tens of thousands column. Looking at the thousands column shows that since there is a 4 in the thousand column for Saturday and a 0 in the thousands column for Friday, Saturday therefore has the largest number. Now carry on for each of the other numbers by looking at the thousands and hundreds columns.

Day	Saturday	Friday	Thursday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Monday	Sunday
Profit	£14 976	£10 834	£8 678	£7 656	£7 573	£5 934	£5 004