



## The decimal method

Here's how to find a percentage using the **decimal method**. Swap the percentage for a decimal then multiply by the decimal to get the answer.



This mobile phone costs £60. You have to put down a 50% deposit. How much is that?

To find a percentage multiply by the decimal equivalent.

50% is equivalent to 0.5 so 50% of £60 is:

$$\mathbf{£60 \times 0.5 = £30}$$

For a 25% deposit you would need to find 25%. What would you have to pay?

To use the decimal method turn 25% into a decimal. What would it be?

From the Decimals and percentages factsheet you can see that 25% = 0.25

So to find 25% you multiply by 0.25:

$$\mathbf{£60 \times 0.25 = £15}$$

So the deposit is **£15**.

### Example

I earn £120 a week and I decide to save 10% of my wages. How much is that?

Turn 10% into a decimal. 10% = 0.1 so:

$$\mathbf{10\% \text{ of } £120 = £120 \times 0.1 = £12}$$

So I save **£12** each week.

### Example

To pass an exam you need 75% of the 60 marks. How many is that?

Remember that 75% is equivalent to 0.75. So to find 75% multiply by 0.75:

$$\mathbf{60 \times 0.75 = 45}$$

So the pass mark is **45** marks out of 60.