

Dividing money

When dividing money:

- record the amount correctly to **two** decimal places
- put a decimal point directly **above** the decimal point that's shown in your sum of money
- start from the **left**

Example 1

Five pens cost £3.85. How much does one cost?

$$5 \overline{) 3.85} \begin{array}{r} 0.77 \\ \underline{3.85} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Each pen costs **£0.77 (77p)**.

Dividing decimals can sometimes produce a long string of numbers. If so, work as far as **three** decimal places and then **round** the second place up or down.

If the last figure is 5 or more, round up. If it's less than 5, round down. Use a calculator to check your answer.

Example 2

Jimmy paid £70 for 6 tickets at a special-offer price. His 5 friends shared the cost with him. How much did each ticket cost?

$$6 \overline{) 70.666} \begin{array}{r} 11.666 \\ \underline{70.000} \\ 666 \\ \underline{660} \\ 66 \\ \underline{66} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Stop here.
Add the extra 0 to get the third decimal place.

Because the third decimal place is a 6, round up. The cost is **£11.67** to the nearest penny.

Example 3

Three people shared the cost of a meal, which was £49. How much was that each?

$$3 \overline{) 49.333} \begin{array}{r} 16.333 \\ \underline{48.000} \\ 1333 \\ \underline{1299} \\ 343 \\ \underline{330} \\ 130 \\ \underline{120} \\ 10 \end{array}$$

The cost is **£16.33** to the nearest penny. (You round down, because the third decimal place is a 3.) Use a calculator to check your answer.