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Christmas Math Riddles



30 riddles from easy to tricky. Write your answer on the line. Answers are on the last page.

Easy riddles ★

1. You bake 3 trays of cookies, and each tray holds 12 cookies. How many cookies do you bake?

   ANSWER _____

2. How many days are there from Christmas Day, December 25, to New Year's Day, January 1?

   ANSWER _____

3. Eight reindeer pull a sleigh. How many reindeer legs is that?

   ANSWER _____

4. Five stockings hang by the fireplace, and each one gets 3 candy canes. How many candy canes is that altogether?

   ANSWER _____

5. An advent calendar has 24 little doors. You've opened 10 of them. How many are still closed?

   ANSWER _____

6. A string has 50 lights. Every fifth light is red, and the rest are white. How many red lights are on the string?

   ANSWER _____

7. Each snowman needs 3 big snowballs. You've rolled 20 snowballs. How many whole snowmen can you build?

   ANSWER _____

8. Christmas is on the 25th of December. How do you write 25 in Roman numerals?

   ANSWER _____

9. A gingerbread house needs 4 walls and 2 roof pieces. How many gingerbread pieces do you need to build 3 houses?

   ANSWER _____

10. In the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas," a partridge in a pear tree arrives on every single one of the 12 days. How many partridges is that in all?

    ANSWER _____

Medium riddles ★★

11. In "The Twelve Days of Christmas," on the twelfth day you get 1 partridge, 2 doves, 3 hens and so on, all the way up to 12 drummers. How many gifts arrive on the twelfth day?

ANSWER _____

12. Candy canes come in packs of 4. Your class has 30 kids, and everyone should get one. How many packs do you need to buy?

ANSWER _____

13. One string of lights blinks every 2 seconds. Another blinks every 3 seconds. They both blink right now. How many seconds until they blink together again?

ANSWER _____

14. In a family of 5, each person gives one present to every other person. How many presents are under the tree?

ANSWER _____

15. Six cousins arrive for Christmas, and every cousin hugs every other cousin once. How many hugs happen?

ANSWER _____

16. A recipe makes 24 cookies with 2 cups of flour. How much flour do you need for 60 cookies?

ANSWER _____

17. Starting on the night of December 1, you go to sleep every night. How many sleeps until you wake up on Christmas morning?

ANSWER _____

18. Multiply the number of days in "The Twelve Days of Christmas" by the number of points on a snowflake. What do you get?

ANSWER _____

19. You have a 10-foot roll of ribbon. Each of your 3 presents needs 2 feet of ribbon. How much ribbon is left?

ANSWER _____

20. It's dark, and your drawer is full of red socks and green socks, all mixed up. How many socks must you grab to be sure you have a matching pair?

ANSWER _____

Tricky riddles ★★★

21. In "The Twelve Days of Christmas," each day brings that day's gifts plus everything from the days before, again. How many gifts do you get over all 12 days?

ANSWER _____

22. In the song, 5 gold rings arrive on the fifth day and again on every day after it. How many gold rings do you get in total?

ANSWER _____

23. Over all 12 days of the song, which gift do you collect the most of? It's a tie! How many of each top gift do you end up with?

ANSWER _____

24. If 3 elves can wrap 3 presents in 3 minutes, how long do 100 elves take to wrap 100 presents?

ANSWER _____

25. Grandma bakes 48 cookies. Half go to the school party. A third of the rest go to the neighbors. How many cookies are left at home?

ANSWER _____

26. A toy train track is a loop of 12 pieces, and each piece is 9 inches long. How long is the whole loop, in feet?

ANSWER _____

27. On Christmas Day, Ava says: "In 3 years, I'll be twice as old as I was 3 years ago." How old is Ava?

ANSWER _____

28. Christmas Day 2026 is on a Friday. What day of the week is New Year's Day, 2027?

ANSWER _____

29. You decorate a tree in 5 rows. The top row has 2 ornaments, and each row below has 2 more than the row above it. How many ornaments are on the tree?

ANSWER _____

30. You go to bed at 9:15 p.m. on Christmas Eve. How long is it until midnight?

ANSWER _____

Answers

Christmas Math Riddles · answer key · print or fold this page away before you hand out the sheet

1. **36 cookies. 3 × 12 = 36.**
2. **7 days.** Exactly one week.
3. **32 legs. 8 × 4 = 32.**
4. **15 candy canes. 5 × 3 = 15.**
5. **14 doors. 24 − 10 = 14.**
6. **10 red lights. 50 ÷ 5 = 10.**
7. **6 snowmen, with 2 snowballs left over. 6 × 3 = 18.**
8. **XXV. 10 + 10 + 5 = 25.**
9. **18 pieces. 3 × 6 = 18.**
10. **12 partridges**
11. **78 gifts.** Six pairs that each add up to 13: 6 × 13 = 78.
12. **8 packs. 8 × 4 = 32, so there are 2 spare.**
13. **6 seconds**
14. **20 presents. 5 × 4 = 20.**
15. **15 hugs. 5 + 4 + 3 + 2 + 1 = 15.**
16. **5 cups. 1 cup makes 12 cookies, and 60 ÷ 12 = 5.**
17. **24 sleeps.** One for every night from December 1 to December 24.
18. **72. 12 × 6 = 72.**
19. **4 feet. 10 − (3 × 2) = 4.**
20. **3 socks.** With only two colors, the third sock must match one of the first two.
21. **364 gifts.** That's one for every day of the year except one.
22. **40 gold rings. 8 days × 5 = 40.**
23. **42. 6 geese × 7 days = 42, and 7 swans × 6 days = 42.**
24. **3 minutes.** Each elf wraps one present in 3 minutes, all at the same time.
25. **16 cookies. 48 ÷ 2 = 24, and 24 − 8 = 16.**
26. **9 feet. 12 × 9 = 108 inches, and 108 ÷ 12 = 9.**
27. **9 years old.** In 3 years she'll be 12, which is twice 6.
28. **Friday.** It's exactly 7 days later.
29. **30 ornaments. 2 + 4 + 6 + 8 + 10 = 30.**
30. **2 hours 45 minutes**

Need a hint? Every riddle has one at riddlepedia.com/christmas-math-riddles/, where you can also play them as a game.