

Partial-Sums Addition Method

There are different methods you can use to add. One of these is called the **partial-sums method**. It is described below. You may have a favorite addition method of your own. Even if you do, make sure that you can also use the partial-sums method.

Here is the partial-sums method for adding 2-digit or 3-digit numbers:

1. Add the 100s.
2. Add the 10s.
3. Add the 1s.
4. Add the sums you just found (the partial sums).

Did You Know?

Another word for *method* is *algorithm*. A method is a clear set of rules used to solve a problem. So is an algorithm.

Example Add $248 + 187$ using the partial-sums method.

		100s	10s	1s
		2	4	8
		+ 1	8	7
Add the 100s.	$200 + 100 \rightarrow$	3	0	0
Add the 10s.	$40 + 80 \rightarrow$	1	2	0
Add the 1s.	$8 + 7 \rightarrow$		1	5
Add the partial sums.	$300 + 120 + 15 \rightarrow$	4	3	5
$248 + 187 = 435$				

Column-Addition Method

Many people prefer the **column method** for adding.

Here is the column method for adding 2-digit or 3-digit numbers:

1. Draw lines to separate the 1s, 10s, and 100s places.
2. Add the numbers in each column. Write each sum in its column.
3. If there are 2 digits in the 1s place, trade 10 ones for 1 ten.
4. If there are 2 digits in the 10s place, trade 10 tens for 1 hundred.

Example Add $248 + 187$ using the column-addition method.

	100s	10s	1s
	2	4	8
+	1	8	7
	3	12	15
Add the numbers in each column. Two digits in the ones place. Trade 10 ones for 1 ten and 5 ones. Move the 1 ten to the tens column.	3	13	5
Two digits in the tens place. Trade 10 tens for 1 hundred and 3 tens. Move the 1 hundred to the hundreds column.	4	3	5
	$248 + 187 = 435$		