



45 - Proportion

Divide for ONE, then Times for ALL

Example

5 pints of milk cost £1.30. How much will 3 pints cost?

The GOLDEN RULE says

“Divide for ONE, then TIMES for ALL”

which means:

Divide the price by 5 to find how much for ONE PINT,
Then multiply by 3 to find how much for 3 PINTS.

So for 1 pint: $£1.30 \div 5 = 0.26 = 26p$

For 3 pints: $26p \times 3 = 78p$

Example

It takes 30 litres of fruit drink to fill 50 cups.

How many litres of fruit drink are needed to fill 70 cups?

Again use the GOLDEN RULE *“Divide for ONE, then TIMES for ALL”*

So for 1 cup: $30 \div 50 = 0.6$ litres

For 70 cups: $0.6 \times 70 = 42$ litres

Linked Prior Topics

- Multiplication and division
- Units

Vocabulary

- Proportion
- Unitary method

Linked Future Topics

- Direct and inverse proportion
- Scale drawings
- Conversions