

Decimal separator

A **decimal separator** is a symbol used to separate the **integer** part from the **fractional part** of a **number** written in **decimal** form (e.g., "." in 12.45). Different countries officially designate different symbols for use as the separator. The choice of symbol also affects the choice of symbol for the **thousands separator** used in digit grouping.

Common decimal separators

Decimal point: **0.1**

Decimal comma: **0,1**

Both a *comma* and a *period* (or *full-stop*) are generally accepted decimal separators for international use.



Three ways to group the number ten thousand with digit group separators.

- 1) Space, the internationally recommended thousands separator.
- 2) Period (or full stop), the thousands separator used in many non-English speaking countries.
- 3) Comma, the thousands separator used in most English-speaking countries.

Any such symbol can be called a **decimal mark**, **decimal marker**, or **decimal sign**. Symbol-specific names are also used; **decimal point** and **decimal comma** refer to an (either [baseline](#) or [middle](#)) dot and [comma](#) respectively, when it is used as a decimal separator; these are the usual terms used in English,^{[1][2][3]} with the aforementioned generic terms reserved for abstract usage.^{[4][5]}

In many contexts, when a number is spoken, the function of the separator is assumed by the spoken name of the symbol: *comma* or *point* in most cases.^{[6][2][7]} In some specialized contexts, the word *decimal* is instead used for this purpose (such as in [International Civil Aviation Organization](#)-regulated [air traffic control](#) communications). In mathematics, the decimal separator is a type of [radix point](#), a term that also applies to number systems with bases other than ten.

History

In the [Middle Ages](#), from the original Indian decimal writing, before printing, a [bar](#) (¯) over the [units digit](#) was used to separate the integral part of a number from its [fractional part](#), as in $99\bar{9}5$ (meaning 99.95 in decimal point format). A similar notation remains in common use as an underbar to superscript digits, especially for monetary values without a decimal separator, as in $99^{\underline{9}5}$. Later, a "separatrix" (i.e., a short, roughly vertical ink stroke) between the units and tenths position became the norm among [Arab mathematicians](#) (e.g. 99,95), while an L-shaped or [vertical bar](#) (|) served as the separatrix in England.^[8] When this character was [typeset](#), it was convenient to use the existing [comma](#) (99,95) or [full stop](#) (99.95) instead.

Positional [decimal fractions](#) appear for the first time in a book by the Arab mathematician [Abu'l-Hasan al-Uqlidisi](#) written in the 10th century.^[9] The practice is ultimately derived from the decimal [Hindu–Arabic numeral system](#) used in [Indian mathematics](#),^[10] and popularized by the [Persian](#) mathematician [Al-Khwarizmi](#),^[11] when [Latin](#) translation of [his work](#) on the [Indian numerals](#) introduced the [decimal positional number system](#) to the Western world. His *Compendious Book on Calculation by Completion and Balancing* presented the first systematic solution of [linear](#) and [quadratic equations](#) in Arabic.

[Gerbert of Aurillac](#) marked triples of columns with an arc (called a "Pythagorean arc"), when using his Hindu–Arabic numeral-based abacus in the 10th century. [Fibonacci](#) followed this convention when writing numbers, such as in his influential work *Liber Abaci* in the 13th century.^[12] Tables of [logarithms](#) prepared by [John Napier](#) in 1614 and 1619 used the period (full stop) as the decimal separator, which was then adopted by [Henry Briggs](#) in his influential 17th century work.

In [France](#), the full stop was already in use in printing to make [Roman numerals](#) more readable, so the comma was chosen.^[13] Many other countries, such as Italy, also chose to use the comma to mark the decimal units position.^[13] It has been [made standard](#) by the [ISO](#) for international blueprints.^[14] However, English-speaking countries took the comma to separate sequences of three digits. In some countries, a raised dot or dash (*upper comma*) may be used for grouping or decimal separator; this is particularly common in handwriting.

In the [United States](#), the full stop or period (.) was used as the standard decimal separator.

Whence, by the method of *minimum squares*,

$$p = +0''\cdot38 - 15\cdot3f - 4\cdot0m : \text{Weight } 0\cdot0789.$$

And assuming the coefficient of aberration = $20''\cdot36$ and $m = 0$,

$$p = +0''\cdot48.$$

The *interpunct* (·) used as a decimal separator in a British print from 1839^[15]

In the nations of the [British Empire](#) (and, later, the [Commonwealth of Nations](#)), the full stop could be used in typewritten material and its use was not banned, although the [interpunct](#) (a.k.a. decimal point, point or mid dot) was preferred as a decimal separator, in printing technologies

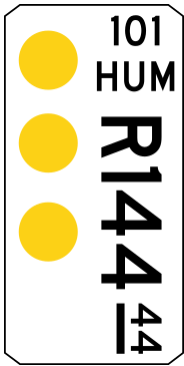
that could accommodate it, e.g. 99·95.^[16] However, as the mid dot was already in common use in the mathematics world to indicate multiplication, the SI rejected its use as the decimal separator.

During the beginning of British [metrication](#) in the late 1960s and with impending currency [decimalisation](#), there was some debate in the United Kingdom as to whether the decimal comma or decimal point should be preferred: the [British Standards Institution](#) and some sectors of industry advocated the comma and the [Decimal Currency Board](#) advocated for the point. In the event, the point was chosen by the [Ministry of Technology](#) in 1968.^[17]

When [South Africa adopted the metric system](#), it adopted the comma as its decimal separator,^[18] although a number of house styles, including some English-language newspapers such as *The Sunday Times*, continue to use the full stop.

The three most spoken [international auxiliary languages](#), [Ido](#), [Esperanto](#), and [Interlingua](#), all use the comma as the decimal separator. Interlingua has used the comma as its decimal separator since the publication of the [Interlingua Grammar](#) in 1951.^[19] Esperanto also uses the comma as its official decimal separator, while thousands are separated by [non-breaking spaces](#):
12 345 678,9. Ido's *Kompleta Gramatiko Detaloza di la Linguo Internaciona Ido* (Complete Detailed Grammar of the International Language Ido) officially states that commas are used for the decimal separator while full stops are used to separate thousands, millions, etc. So the number 12,345,678.90123 (in American notation) for instance, would be written 12.345.678,90123 in Ido. The 1931 grammar of [Volapük](#) by [Arie de Jong](#) uses the comma as its decimal separator, and—somewhat unusually—uses the middle dot as the thousands separator (12·345·678,90123).^[20]

In 1958, disputes between European and American delegates over the correct representation of the decimal separator nearly stalled the development of the [ALGOL](#) computer programming language.^[21] ALGOL ended up allowing different decimal separators, but most computer languages and standard data formats (e.g., [C](#), [Java](#), [Fortran](#), [Cascading Style Sheets \(CSS\)](#)) specify a dot.



California milepost marker at mile 144.44

Previously, signs along [California](#) roads expressed distances in decimal numbers with the decimal part in superscript, as in 3^Z , meaning 3.7.^[22] Though California has since transitioned to [mixed numbers](#) with [common fractions](#), the older style remains on [postmile](#) markers and bridge inventory markers.

Radix point

In [mathematics](#) and [computing](#), a **radix point** or **radix character** is a symbol used in the display of numbers to separate the [integer](#) part of the value from its [fractional part](#). In [English](#) and many other languages (including many that are written right-to-left), the integer part is at the left of the radix point, and the fraction part at the right of it.^[23]

A radix point is most often used in [decimal](#) (base 10) notation, when it is more commonly called the [decimal point](#) (the prefix [deci-](#) implying base 10). In [English-speaking countries](#), the decimal point is usually a small dot (.) placed either on the baseline or halfway between the baseline and the top of the [digits](#)^[24] In many other countries, the radix point is a comma (,) placed on the baseline.^[24] These conventions are generally used both in machine displays ([printing](#), [computer monitors](#)) and in [handwriting](#). It is important to know which notation is being used when working in different software programs. The respective [ISO standard](#) defines both the comma and the small dot as decimal markers, but does not explicitly define universal radix marks for bases other than 10.

Fractional numbers are rarely displayed in other [number bases](#), but, when they are, a radix character may be used for the same purpose. When used with the [binary](#) (base 2) representation, it may be called "binary point".

Current standards

The 22nd [General Conference on Weights and Measures](#) declared in 2003 that "the symbol for the decimal marker shall be either the point on the line or the comma on the line". It further reaffirmed that "numbers may be divided in groups of three in order to facilitate reading; neither dots nor commas are ever inserted in the spaces between groups"^[25] (e.g. 1 000 000 000). This usage has therefore been recommended by technical organizations, such as the United States' [National Institute of Standards and Technology](#).^[26]

Past versions of [ISO 8601](#), but not the 2019 revision, also stipulated normative notation based on SI conventions, adding that the comma is preferred over the full stop.^[27]

[ISO 80000-1](#) stipulates that "The decimal sign is either a comma or a point on the line." The standard does not stipulate any preference, observing that usage will depend on customary usage in the language concerned, but adds a note that as per ISO/IEC Directives all ISO standards should use the point decimal marker.

Digit grouping

For ease of reading, numbers with many digits may be divided into groups using a [delimiter](#),^[28] such as comma ",", or dot ".", half-space (or [thin space](#)) " ", space " ", underbar "_" (as in maritime "21_450") or apostrophe «'». In some countries, these "digit group separators" are only employed to the left of the decimal separator; in others, they are also used to separate numbers with a long [fractional part](#). An important reason for grouping is that it allows rapid judgement of the number of digits, via [subitizing](#) (telling at a glance) rather than counting (contrast, for example, 100 000 000 with 100000000 for one hundred million).

The use of spaces as separators, not dots or commas (for example: 20 000 and 1 000 000 for "twenty thousand" and "one million"), has been official policy of the [International Bureau of Weights and Measures](#) since 1948 (and reaffirmed in 2003) stating "neither dots nor commas are ever inserted in the spaces between groups",^[29] as well as by the [International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry](#) (IUPAC),^{[30][31]} the [American Medical Association](#)'s widely followed [AMA Manual of Style](#), and the [Metrication Board](#), among others.

The groups created by the delimiters tend to follow the use of the local language, which varies. In European languages, large numbers are read in groups of thousands, and the delimiter—which occurs every three digits when it is used—may be called a "thousands separator". In [East Asian](#)

cultures, particularly [China](#), [Japan](#), and [Korea](#), large numbers are read in groups of [myriads](#) (10,000s) but the delimiter commonly separates every three digits. The [Indian numbering system](#) is somewhat more complex: it groups the rightmost three digits together (until the hundreds place) and thereafter groups by sets of two digits. For example, one trillion would thus be written as 10,00,00,00,00,000 or 10 [kharab](#).^[32]

The convention for digit group separators historically varied among countries, but usually seeking to distinguish the delimiter from the decimal separator. Traditionally, [English-speaking countries](#) employed commas as the delimiter – 10,000 – and other European countries employed periods or spaces: 10.000 or 10 000. Because of the confusion that could result in international documents, in recent years the use of spaces as separators has been advocated by the superseded [SI/ISO 31-0 standard](#),^[33] as well as by the [International Bureau of Weights and Measures](#) and the [International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry](#), which have also begun advocating the use of a "thin space" in "groups of three".^{[30][31]} Within the United States, the [American Medical Association's](#) widely followed [AMA Manual of Style](#) also calls for a thin space.^[28] In some online [encoding](#) environments (for example, [ASCII-only](#)) a thin space is not practical or available, in which case a regular word space or no delimiter are the alternatives.

Data versus mask

Digit group separators can occur either as part of the data or as a mask through which the data is displayed. This is an example of the [separation of presentation and content](#), making it possible to display numbers with spaced digit grouping in a way that does not insert any [whitespace characters](#) into the string of digits in the [content](#). In many computing contexts, it is preferred to omit digit group separators from the data and instead overlay them as a mask (an [input mask](#) or an output mask). Common examples include [spreadsheets](#) and [databases](#) in which currency values are entered without such marks but are displayed with them inserted. (Similarly, phone numbers can have hyphens, spaces or parentheses as a mask rather than as data.) In [web content](#), such digit grouping can be done with [CSS style](#). It is useful because the number can be [copied and pasted](#) into [calculators](#) (including a web browser's [omnibox](#)) and parsed by the computer as-is (i.e., without the user manually purging the extraneous characters). For example, [Wikipedia](#) content can display numbers this way, as in the following examples: 149 597 870 700 metres is 1 [astronomical unit](#), 3.14159 26535 89793 23846 is π rounded to 20 decimal places, and 2.71828 18284 59045 23536 is e rounded to 20 decimal places.

In some [programming languages](#), it is possible to group the digits in the program's [source code](#) to make it easier to read; see [Integer literal: Digit separators](#). [Ada](#), [C#](#) (from version 7.0^[34]), [D](#), [Haskell](#) (from GHC version 8.6.1), [Java](#), [Kotlin](#),^[35] [OCaml](#), [Perl](#), [Python](#) (from version 3.6), [PHP](#) (from version 7.4^[36]), [Ruby](#), [Go](#) (from version 1.13), [Rust](#), [Julia](#), and [Swift](#) use the [underscore](#) (`_`) character for this purpose; as such, these languages allow seven hundred million to be entered as `700_000_000`. Fixed-form [Fortran](#) ignores [whitespace](#) (in all contexts), so `700 000 000` is permissible. [C++14](#), [Rebol](#), and [Red](#) allow the use of an [apostrophe](#) for digit grouping, so `700'000'000` is permissible. Below is shown an example Kotlin code using separators to increase readability:

```
1 val exampleNumber = 12_004_953 // Twelve million four thousand
   nine hundred fifty-three
```

Exceptions to digit grouping

The [International Bureau of Weights and Measures](#) states that "when there are only four digits before or after the decimal marker, it is customary not to use a space to isolate a single digit".^[30] Likewise, some [manuals of style](#) state that thousands separators should not be used in normal text for numbers from 1,000 to 9,999 inclusive where no decimal fractional part is shown (in other words, for four-digit whole numbers), whereas others use thousands separators and others use both. For example, [APA style](#) stipulates a thousands separator for "most figures of 1,000 or more" except for page numbers, binary digits, temperatures, etc.

There are always "common-sense" country-specific exceptions to digit grouping, such as year numbers, [postal codes](#), and ID numbers of predefined nongrouped format, which style guides usually point out.

In non-base-10 numbering systems

In binary (base-2), a full space can be used between groups of four digits, corresponding to a [nibble](#), or equivalently to a [hexadecimal](#) digit. For integer numbers, dots are used as well to separate groups of four bits.^[37] Alternatively, binary digits may be grouped by threes, corresponding to an [octal](#) digit. Similarly, in hexadecimal (base-16), full spaces are usually used to group digits into twos, making each group correspond to a [byte](#).^[38] Additionally, groups of eight bytes are often separated by a hyphen.^[38]

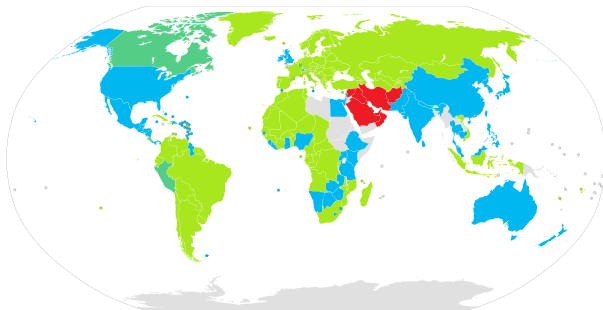
Influence of calculators and computers

In countries with a decimal comma, the decimal point is also common as the "international" notation because of the influence of devices, such as [electronic calculators](#), which use the decimal point. Most computer [operating systems](#) allow selection of the decimal separator; programs that have been carefully [internationalized](#) will follow this, but some programs ignore it and a few may even fail to operate if the setting has been changed.

Computer interfaces may be set to the Unicode international "Common locale" using "LC_NUMERIC=C" as defined at <http://cldr.unicode.org/> . Details of the current (2020) definitions may be found [here \(http://www.unicode.org/L2/L2001/01102-POSIX15897.htm\)](http://www.unicode.org/L2/L2001/01102-POSIX15897.htm) .

Usage worldwide

Hindu–Arabic numerals



Decimal separators:

- Dot (.)
- Comma (,)
- Both (may vary by location or other factors)
- Arabic decimal separator (٫)
- Data unavailable

Countries using decimal comma

Countries where a comma "," is used as decimal separator include:

- Albania
- Algeria

- Andorra
- Angola
- Argentina
- Armenia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Bolivia
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Brazil
- Bulgaria^[a]
- Cameroon
- Canada (when using French)
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Denmark
- East Timor
- Ecuador
- Estonia
- Faroes
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Georgia
- Greece
- Greenland
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Indonesia
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Kosovo
- Kyrgyzstan
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg (uses both marks officially)
- Macau (in Portuguese text)
- Mauritania
- Moldova
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Namibia (uses both marks)^[39]
- The Netherlands

- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Paraguay
- Peru^[40]
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russia
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Somalia
- South Africa^{[41][42]}
- Spain^[b]
- Suriname
- Sweden^[b]
- Switzerland^[c]
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Ukraine
- Uruguay
- Uzbekistan
- Venezuela
- Vietnam
- Zimbabwe

Countries using decimal point

Countries where a dot "." is used as decimal separator include:

- Australia
- Bahamas, The
- Bangladesh
- Botswana
- British West Indies
- Cambodia
- Canada (when using English)
- China
- Dominican Republic
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Estonia
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- Guatemala
- Guyana
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- India
- Ireland

- Israel
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Korea, North
- Korea, South
- Libya
- Liechtenstein
- Luxembourg (uses both marks officially)
- Macau (in Chinese and English text)
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Malta
- Mexico
- Myanmar
- Namibia (uses both marks)
- Nepal
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Peru (currency numbers only)
- Philippines
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Singapore
- Somalia
- Sri Lanka
- Switzerland^[c]
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tanzania
- Thailand^[b]
- Uganda
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States (including [insular areas](#))

a. *The comma as a decimal separator is the national literary convention, but many places use the dot as decimal separator due to prevalence of imported tech that internally uses dot as the decimal separator (because the tech usually utilizes the dot decimal separator convention of the country where it was made, which is mostly USA-&-ASCII-oriented, or is made in China where the dot is utilized as a decimal separator). To sum up, the comma is the conventional decimal separator in Bulgaria, but both the comma and the dot are in de facto usage.*

b. *According to several software developers.*^{[45][46]}

c. *The decimal point is used in some [cantons](#) (for example the [Canton of St. Gallen](#)^[43]) and is used in *IT* and for [currency](#). The decimal comma is used for federal publications^[44] and some [cantons](#).*

Other numeral systems

Unicode defines a *decimal separator key symbol* (؍ in hex U+2396, decimal 9110) which looks similar to the [apostrophe](#). This symbol is from [ISO/IEC 9995](#) and is intended for use on a keyboard to indicate a key that performs decimal separation.

In the [Arab world](#), where [Eastern Arabic numerals](#) are used for writing numbers, a different character is used to separate the integer and fractional parts of numbers. It is referred to as an [Arabic decimal separator](#) (U+066B, rendered: ،) in [Unicode](#). An Arabic thousands separator (U+066C, rendered:) also exists. Example: ٩.٩٩٩,٩٩ (9,999.99)

In [Persian](#), the decimal separator is called *momayyez*. The Unicode Consortium's investigation has concluded that "computer programs should render U+066B as a shortened, lowered, and possibly more slanted [slash](#) (،); this should be distinguishable from the slash at the first sight." To separate [sequences](#) of three digits, an Arabic thousands separator (rendered as:)، a Latin comma, or a [blank space](#) may be used; however this is not a standard.^{[47][48][49]} Example: ٩.٩٩٩,٩٩ (9,999.99)

In [English Braille](#), the decimal point, ⠆, is distinct from both the comma, ⠂, and the full stop, ⠚.

Examples of use

The following examples show the decimal separator and the thousands separator in various countries that use the Arabic numeral system.

Style	Countries and regions
1,234,567.89	Australia, ^{[50][51]} Cambodia, Canada (English-speaking; unofficial), China, Hong Kong, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Korea, Macau (in Chinese and English text), Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Peru (currency numbers), Philippines, Singapore, South Africa (English-speaking; unofficial), Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom and other Commonwealth states (except Mozambique), United States.
1 234 567.89	SI style (English version), Canada (English-speaking; official), China, Estonia (currency numbers), Hong Kong (in education), Namibia, South Africa (English-speaking: official), Sri Lanka, Switzerland (officially encouraged for currency numbers only ^[52]), United Kingdom (in education), United States (in education).
1 234 567,89	SI style (French version), Albania, Belgium (French), Bulgaria, Canada (French-speaking), Costa Rica, ^[53] Croatia ^[54] Czechia, Estonia, Finland, France, Hungary, Italy (in education), Kosovo, Latin Europe, Latvia, Lithuania, Macau (in Portuguese text), Mozambique, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, South Africa (in Afrikaans text), Spain (official use since 2010, according to the <i>RAE</i>), Sweden, Switzerland (officially encouraged, except currency numbers ^[52]), Ukraine, Vietnam (in education).
1,234,567·89	Malaysia, Philippines (uncommon today), Singapore, United Kingdom (older, typically handwritten; in education)
1,234.567,89	Croatia (alternative to spaces; commas and periods alternate with powers of 1000) ^[54]
1.234.567,89	Argentina, Austria, Belgium (Dutch), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Croatia (informal), Denmark, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Netherlands, Romania, Slovenia, Serbia (informal), Spain (used until 2010, inadvisable use according to the <i>RAE</i>), ^{[55][56]} Turkey, Uruguay, Vietnam.
12,34,567.89	Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan (see Indian Numbering System).
12 34 567.89	Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan (see Indian Numbering System).
1'234'567.89	Switzerland (computing), Liechtenstein.
1'234'567,89	Switzerland (handwriting), Italy (handwriting).
1.234.567'89	Spain (handwriting, used until 1980s, inadvisable use according to the <i>RAE</i>).
123,4567.89	Mainland China (based on powers of 10 000—see Chinese numerals).

- In Albania, Belgium (French), Estonia, Finland,^[57] France, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and much of [Latin Europe](#) as well as French Canada: 1 234 567,89 (In Spain, in handwriting it is also common to use an upper comma: 1.234.567'89)
- In Belgium (Dutch), Brazil, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovenia, Sweden and much of Europe: 1 234 567,89 or 1.234.567,89. In [handwriting](#), 1'234'567,89 is also seen, but never in Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovenia or Sweden. In Italy, a straight apostrophe is also used in handwriting: 1'234'567,89. In the Netherlands and Dutch-speaking Belgium, the points thousands separator is used, and is preferred for currency amounts, but the space is recommended by some style guides, mostly in technical writing.^[58]
- In Estonia, currency numbers often use a dot "." as the decimal separator, and a space as a thousands separator. This is most visible on shopping receipts and in documents that also use other numbers with decimals, such as measurements. This practice is used to better distinguish between prices and other values with decimals. An older convention uses dots to separate thousands (with commas for decimals) – this older practice makes it easier to avoid word breaks with larger numbers.
- Historically, in Germany and Austria, thousands separators were occasionally denoted by alternating uses of comma and point, e.g. 1.234,567.890,12^{[59][60]} for "eine Milliarde 234 Millionen ...", but this is never seen in modern days and requires explanation to a contemporary German reader.
- Switzerland: There are two cases: An apostrophe as a thousands separator along with a dot "." as the decimal separator are used for currency values (for example: 1'234'567.89). For other values, the [SI-style](#) 1 234 567,89 is used with a comma "," as the decimal separator. The apostrophe is also the most common variety for non-currency values: 1'234'567,89 – though this usage is officially discouraged.
- In Ireland, Israel, Japan, [Korea](#) (both), Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States: 1,234,567.89 or 1,234,567·89; the latter is generally found only in older, and especially [handwritten](#) documents.
- English Canada: There are two cases: The preferred method for currency values is \$10,000.00 –while for numeric values, it is 1 234 567.89; however, commas are also sometimes used, although no longer taught in school or used in official publications.

- **SI style:** 1 234 567.89 or 1 234 567,89 (in their own publications, the dot "." is used in the English version, and the comma "," in the official French version).
- In China, comma and space are used to mark digit groups, because dot is used as decimal separator. There is no universal convention on digit grouping, so both thousands grouping and no digit grouping can be found. Japan and Taiwan are similar; although when grouping by myriads, **kanji** or **characters** are frequently used as separators: 1億2345万6789 / 1億2345萬6789. Commas are used when grouping by thousands.
- In **India**, due to a numeral system using **lakhs** (*lacs*) (1,23,456 equal to 123,456) and **crores** (1,23,45,678 equal to 12,345,678), a comma is used at levels of thousand, lakh, and crore. For example, 10 million (1 crore) would be written as 1,00,00,000. In **Pakistan**, there is a greater tendency to use the standard western system, while using the Indian numbering system when conducting business in **Urdu**.

Indian Value	Value	Equivalent Western Notation
One	1	One
Ten	10	Ten
Hundred	100	Hundred
Thousand	1,000	Thousand
Lakh	1,00,000	One Hundred Thousand
Crore	1,00,00,000	Ten Million
Arab (not normally used)	1,00,00,00,000	One Billion
Kharab (not normally used)	1,00,00,00,00,000	One Hundred Billion
Lakh Crore	10,00,00,00,00,000	One Trillion

Unicode characters

Used with **Western Arabic numerals** (0123456789):

- U+0020 SPACE
- U+0027 ' APOSTROPHE (')
- U+002C , COMMA (,)
- U+002E . FULL STOP (.) - **Full stop punctuation mark**.

- U+00B7 · MIDDLE DOT (·;, ·;, ·)
- U+2009 THIN SPACE ( ;,  )
- U+202F NARROW NO-BREAK SPACE
- U+02D9 ˙ DOT ABOVE (˙;, ˙)

Used with [Eastern Arabic numerals](#) (٠١٢٣٤٥٦٧٨٩):

- U+066B , ARABIC DECIMAL SEPARATOR
- U+066C ٫ ARABIC THOUSANDS SEPARATOR

Used with keyboards:

- U+2396 † DECIMAL SEPARATOR KEY SYMBOL (resembles an apostrophe)

See also

- [Algorism](#)
- [Cifrão](#)
- [Decimal floating point](#)
- [Decimal place](#)
- [Decimal representation](#)
- [Decimal section numbering](#)
- [Dot-decimal notation](#)
- [International System of Units](#)
- [ISO 2145](#)
- [RKM code](#)
- [Version numbering](#)

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```
-h 1234
1234 #4660 \011064 %0001.0010.0011.0100
```

38. As an example, the `DR-DOS DEBUG` `D` command dumps the memory byte-wise in hexadecimal notation with bytes separated by spaces and groups of eight bytes separated by hyphens:

```
-d 0
1234:0000 57 69 6B 69 70 65 64 69-61 20 68 65 6C 70 73 21  Wikipedia
helps!
```

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