

How many millions in a billion: the thousand-million-billion-trillion table, with lakh and crore

1,000 millions make a billion; 1,000 billions make a trillion; 1,000,000 millions make a trillion. Each step adds three zeros (one comma group). Going up the ladder divide by 1,000 per step; going down multiply by 1,000 per step (move the decimal point three places).

The conversion table both ways

From \ To	thousand	million	billion	trillion
1 thousand =	1	0.001	0.000001	0.000000001
1 million =	1,000	1	0.001	0.000001
1 billion =	1,000,000	1,000	1	0.001
1 trillion =	1,000,000,000	1,000,000	1,000	1

Converting any figure

The figure	The working	The answer
2.5 billion in millions	$2.5 \times 1,000$	2,500 million
350 million in billions	$350 \div 1,000$	0.35 billion
7 trillion in billions	$7 \times 1,000$	7,000 billion
7 trillion in millions	$7 \times 1,000 \times 1,000$	7,000,000 million
45,000 million in billions	$45,000 \div 1,000$	45 billion
1.4 billion people in millions	$1.4 \times 1,000$	1,400 million

In lakh and crore (Indian commas group two digits after the first three)

Indian	Indian commas	International	International commas
1 lakh	1,00,000	100 thousand	100,000
10 lakh	10,00,000	1 million	1,000,000
1 crore	1,00,00,000	10 million	10,000,000
10 crore	10,00,00,000	100 million	100,000,000
100 crore (1 arab)	1,00,00,00,000	1 billion	1,000,000,000
1,000 crore	10,00,00,00,000	10 billion	10,000,000,000
1 lakh crore	1,00,00,00,00,00,000	1 trillion	1,000,000,000,000

Memorise four: 1 million = 10 lakh; 1 crore = 10 million; 1 billion = 100 crore; 1 trillion = 1 lakh crore. Crore to million: $\times 10$. Crore to billion: $\div 100$.

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Words, scientific notation, how big each one is, and practice

In words and in scientific notation

Digits	In words	Scientific notation
4,500,000	four million five hundred thousand (4.5 million)	4.5×10^6
2,300,000,000	two billion three hundred million (2.3 billion)	2.3×10^9
7,250,000,000,000	seven trillion two hundred fifty billion (7.25 trillion)	7.25×10^{12}

The power of ten counts the places the decimal point moved: 2,300,000,000 is 2.3 with the point moved 9 places.

How big

	That many seconds	That many days	At \$1,000 a day it lasts	Stacked \$100 bills
million	11.6 days	2,740 years	2.7 years	about 1 metre
billion	31.7 years	2.7 million years	2,740 years	about 1 km
trillion	31,700 years	2.7 billion years	2.7 million years	about 1,000 km

The old British billion: until 1974 British English used the long scale, in which a billion was a million million (10^{12}). German, French, Spanish, Italian and Dutch still do: a German Milliarde is an English billion and a German Billion an English trillion.

Practice

- [] 1. How many millions in 6 billion?
- [] 2. How many billions in 4,500 million?
- [] 3. Write 3.2 billion in millions.
- [] 4. Write 750 million in billions.
- [] 5. How many millions in a trillion?
- [] 6. How many lakh in 3 million?
- [] 7. How many crore in 2 billion?
- [] 8. Write 45 crore in millions.
- [] 9. Write 1,20,00,000 with international commas and in words.
- [] 10. Write 2.75 billion in scientific notation.
- [] 11. A debt of 1.5 trillion dollars is how many billion?
- [] 12. A city of 8 million people: how many lakh?

Answers

1) 6,000 million 2) 4.5 billion 3) 3,200 million 4) 0.75 billion 5) 1,000,000 6) 30 lakh 7) 200 crore 8) 450 million 9) 12,000,000, twelve million (1.2 crore) 10) 2.75×10^9 11) 1,500 billion 12) 80 lakh