# Learn Math Fast 

## Student Progress Charts <br> for

## Worksheets and Timed Tests

Prepared by Donald L. Potter
www.donpotter.net
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## Learn Math Fast: Volume 1

| NAME __ TEACHER | SCHOOL _ _ C |  | Grade |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| CHAPTER 1: Adding and Subtracting Numbers Smaller than 10 |  |  | Date |
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| Lesson 2: Adding \& Subtracting 6 | Worksheet 2 | Timed Test 2 |  |
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| Lesson 5: Adding \& Subtracting 9 | Worksheet 5 | Timed Test 5 |  |
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## Learn Math Fast: Volume 2

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## Date

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## Why Can't My Child Learn Multiplication?

## J. K. Mergens

You've tried oodles of books, stacks of CD's, decks of flashcards, and still your child struggles to answer $6 \times 4$ correctly. Your older child got it and the younger one is catching on, so why is it that some children just can't seem to remember basic multiplication facts? The answer is simple; they can't add. That's right! Children who struggle to learn multiplication facts actually have difficulties with addition. I didn't think this was true at first, but after homeschooling my son through high school, tutoring several other children, and developing my own math curriculum, I know this is true.

I'll never forget the day I asked my son, "How much is $4 \times 3$ ?" And he just stared at me. I said, "You know that $4+4$ is 8 , so how much is $8+4$ more?" He continued to stare at me; he had no idea! I couldn't believe it. After two years of using a well-known textbook, he couldn't add $8+$ 4 in his mind. How could I expect him to multiply numbers when he couldn't even add them? After all, multiplying is a form of adding multiple numbers. I knew I had to do something, so I put that textbook away and I created my own method to teach him how to add numbers in his mind. Soon after, my son started to excel in math. He advanced so quickly, by age 16 he had finished high school math, enrolled in college, and taught himself Calculus II. Today he is a successful engineer.

While my son was in college, I had the opportunity to tutor some other children. Two of them were $7^{\text {th }}$ graders; one boy and one girl. Both of them were trying to learn multiplication for years, but just couldn't seem to memorize those facts. As I worked with them, I noticed that they both had difficulties adding. It would take them several minutes just to add the columns of numbers below the multiplication problem. For a moment, I flashbacked to when my son was younger and had difficulties adding. So I asked each of them separately, "How much is $8+7$ ?" One tried counting on his fingers; the other one thought for a while and then she said, " 14 ?" I knew what I had to do; I had to show them the method I used to teach my son how to add and subtract numbers in his mind. When I told the students and their parents that I wanted to go back to addition, they didn't really understand. But I knew that these kids would never be able to advance until they learned how to add and subtract small numbers in their minds.

Addition is so important in math that even during calculus you will often be required to solve simple addition. Have you ever heard of The 9's Trick? It's a quick way to recall all the answers to 9 times any single digit number. If you aren't familiar with it, watch the 2 minute video on the LMF website. It's a fantastic trick, but if you can't quickly solve problems such as $6+3$, even a trick as effective as this one won't work.

In 2010, I published the method I used to teach my son math and it is being used by homeschooling families across the globe. Many of them have sent emails telling me how only a year ago their child was struggling to multiply and now, after using my program, their student is not only enjoying math, but they are exceling at it.

The next time you meet someone who struggles to memorize basic multiplication facts ask him/her to add $8+7$ in their mind. If you don't hear " 15 " within two seconds, you will know it's time to start over. But the good news is that it doesn't take long with the Learn Math Fast System.

Originally posted on www.OhioHomeschool.blogspot.com

## How Can I Teach Math to My Child?

By J. K. Mergens
Are you trying to teach a subject that you don't know, don't understand, and frankly, don't even like? No problem, the Learn Math Fast System can help. These books assume that the reader doesn't understand math and walks you through every step. You can learn right along with your kids or just hand the books to your older, independent learner and tell them to start reading. A Teacher's Guide isn't necessary; it's all self directed.

The answers are included in the back of each book. And not just the answer, but all work is shown with full solutions, so you can find where you went wrong.

These books are written in a conversational tone with just a bit of humor. All new vocabulary words are explained and several tips and tricks are offered to help the student recall important terms.

Note from Don Potter: I included this little note from Mrs. Mergens to encourage parents and teachers who may have struggled with math in school to take courage knowing that the program does not even assume competence on the part of the instructor. You can learn right along with your students.

# Note from Internet Publisher: Donald L. Potter 

## November 8, 2017

I purchased the first two volumes of Learn Math Fast in October 2017 to use with my tutoring students at the Odessa Christian School in Odessa, TX. and with my private tutoring students. I created these Student Progress Charts to help me keep track of the students' progress from one tutoring session to the next.

I will make charts for the other five LMF textbooks as soon as I can get copies.

My experience teaching multiplication is exactly the same as Mrs. Mergens. I noticed that the kids could not add 6 to 18 to get $6 \times 4=24$, etc. The third grade teachers are frustrated because the first and second grade teachers did not teach the addition tables to automaticity. By taking the kids through LMF from the very start and building a strong foundation in addition, teaching multiplication becomes quite easy.
http://learnmathfastbooks.com/index.html
www.donpotter.net

