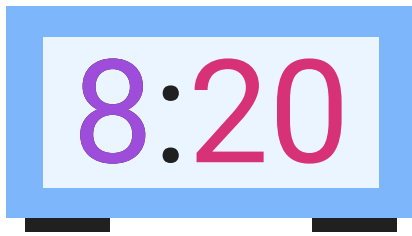


# How to tell time

What time is it? A clock can show you the answer!

## Types of clocks

A **digital clock** shows the **hour**, then a colon, and then the **minutes**.



An **analog clock** has two hands. The shorter hand shows the **hour**. The longer hand shows the **minutes**.

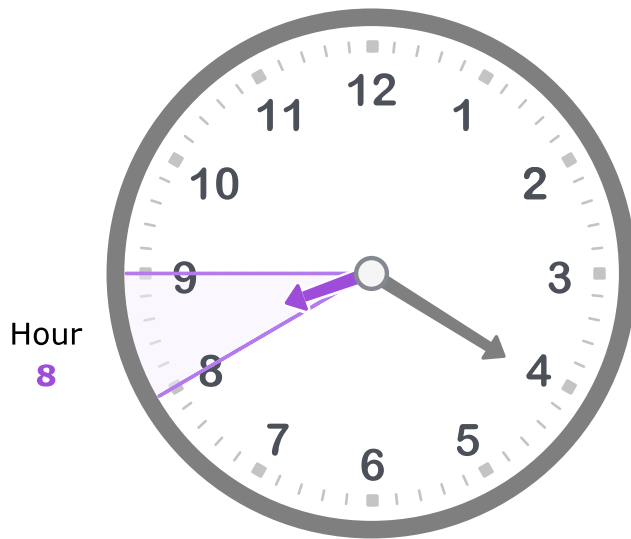


## Reading analog clocks

You can read an analog clock by looking at the hands.

First, look at the **hour hand**. It points directly to the number of the hour or somewhere between that number and the next number.

Look at this example. The hour hand is between 8 and 9. So, the hour is **8**.



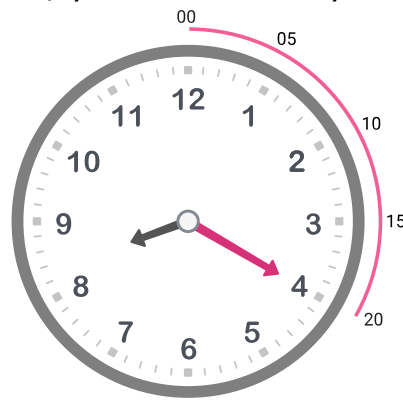
Then, look at the **minute hand**. The minute hand starts at the top of the clock. For every minute that passes, it moves one tick mark around the clock.

Start at the top and count the tick marks to see how many minutes have passed.

You can count by 1s.



Or, you can count by 5s.



This minute hand shows **20 minutes**. So, the time is 20 minutes past 8, or **8:20**.

Let's try it!



The hour hand is pointing to the 5. **The hour is 5.**

The minute hand is pointing to the 12. This shows **0 minutes** after the hour.

The time is **5:00**. You can also say 5 o'clock.




The hour hand is pointing between 9 and 10. It is past 9 o'clock but not 10 o'clock yet. **The hour is 9.**

The minute hand is pointing between 4 and 5. Start at the top, and count by 5s until you get to the 4. Then, count by 1s for the last two tick marks. This shows **22 minutes** after the hour.


The time is **9:22**.

Go to IXL to try some practice problems!

What time does the clock show?



:

 Read clocks and write times 5ZQ

## Time words

For certain times, you can use special time words. Look below to see how to use those special time words.

When the number of minutes is 45, you can say it is "15 minutes to" the next hour. You can also say it is "a quarter to" the next hour.



For example, you can say it is 15 minutes to 3 or a quarter to 3.

When the number of minutes is 15, you can say it is "15 minutes after" the hour. You can also say it is "a quarter past" the hour.



For example, you can say it is 15 minutes after 3 or a quarter past 3.

When the number of minutes is 30, you can say it is "half past" the hour.



For example, you can say it is half past 3.

Go to IXL to try some practice problems!

What time is shown?



*Answer by typing a time word, not a number.*

It is  to seven.

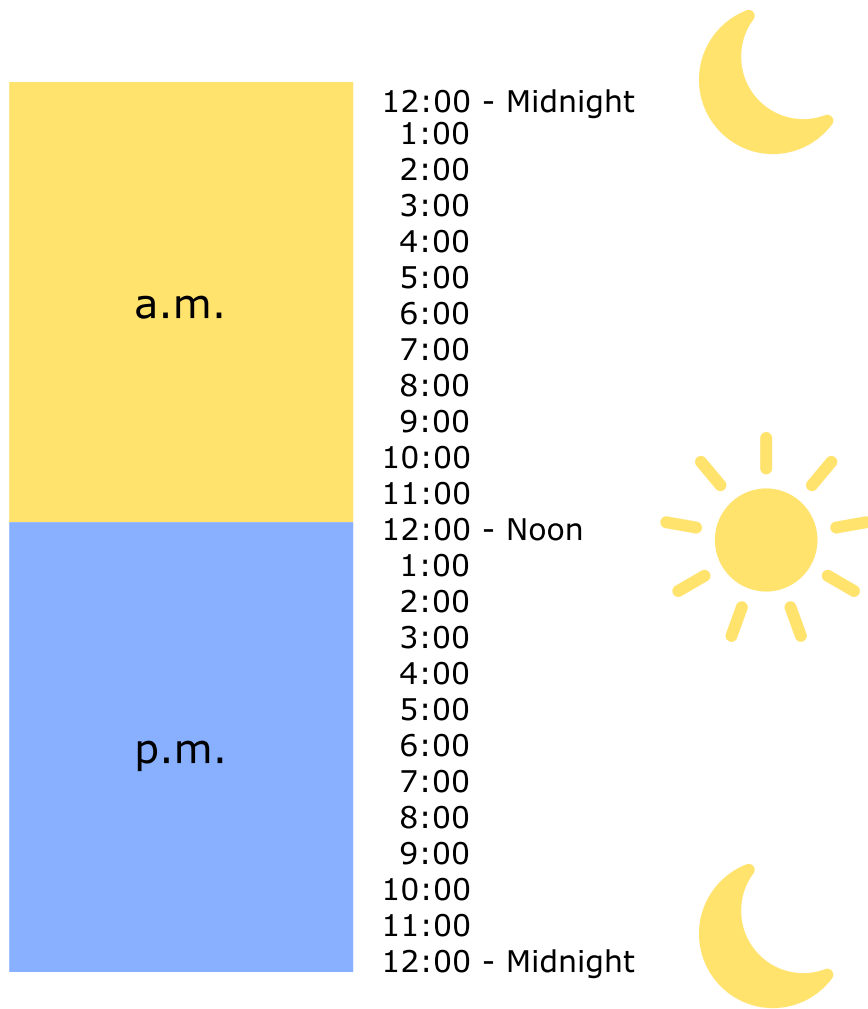


Time words: o'clock, half, quarter 5TA

## A.m. and p.m.

How can you tell the difference between 6 o'clock in the morning and 6 o'clock at night? Use a.m. and p.m.!

There are 24 hours in a day but only 12 hours on a clock. So, we split the day into two parts. The first part of the day is called a.m. The second part of the day is called p.m.



At 6:00 a.m. you might be waking up.

At 6:00 p.m. you might be eating dinner.

Midnight is 12:00 a.m. Noon is 12:00 p.m.

Go to IXL to try some practice problems!

Scott sees fireworks flashing in the dark sky. His watch shows:



What time is it?

Write your answer using numbers, a colon (:), and A.M. or P.M.



A.M. or P.M. MUC

### Visit IXL for more related skills and lessons!

#### Skills

[Match analog and digital clocks](#) L5U

[Read clocks and write times](#) 5ZQ

[A.M. or P.M.](#) MUC

#### Lessons

[Elapsed time](#)