

DOMINO MAGIC

Math skills: Addition and multiplication

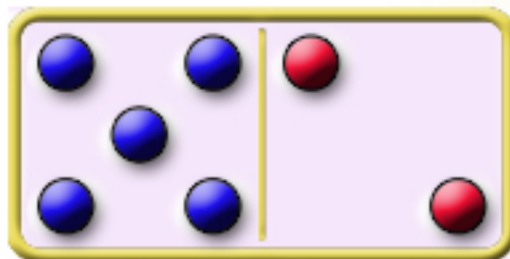
You will need: A box of dominos; a calculator

Difficulty level: 2

Introduction: Tell your students that it is possible to do math problems in your head faster than with a calculator.

What to do: Ask a student to choose one domino (without a blank space), show it to the class (without showing it to you) and ask them to do the next steps on their calculators:

- ❖ Multiply one of the numbers by 5
- ❖ Add 7
- ❖ Multiply the result by 2
- ❖ Add the other number on the domino
- ❖ Ask your volunteer to write the answer on the board
- ❖ You write the 2 numbers on the original domino on the board!



How it works: Each domino has two numbers A and B, which can each have any of the following values: 1,2,3,4,5 and 6.

Let's say that the chosen domino had the numbers 5 and 2, and the student chose the number 5.

Multiply A by 5 $\rightarrow 5A$

Add 7 $\rightarrow 5A + 7$

Multiply by 2 $\rightarrow (5A + 7) \times 2 = 10A + 14$

Add B $\rightarrow 10A + 14 + B$

Subtract 14 $\rightarrow 10A + 14 + B - 14 = 10A + B$

Why it works: Since A and B are both units, 10A will be a ten and B will be a unit. Therefore, A and B can be determined. (Note that this procedure also works with blanks or when A and/or B are zero.)

