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a·rith·me·tic  (ə-řĭth mĭ-tĭk)

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n.

The mathematics of integers, rational numbers, real numbers, or complex numbers under addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

adj. **ar·ith·met·ic** (är'ĭth-mět ĭk) also **ar'ith·met i·cal** (är'ĭth-mět ĭ-kəl)

1. Of or relating to arithmetic.

2. Changing according to an arithmetic progression: *The increase in the food supply is arithmetic.*

[Middle English *arsmetike*, from Old French *arismetique*, from Medieval Latin *arismetica*, alteration of Latin *arithmētica*, from Greek *arithmētikē* (*tekhnē*), (art) of counting, feminine of *arithmētikos*, from *arithmein*, to count, from *arithmos*, number; see **ar-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

ar'ith·met i·cal·ly *adv.*

a·rith'me·ti cian (-tĭsh ən) *n.*

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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