PRACTICAL AND FINANCIAL LITERACY

Splitting Bills

Difficulty level: Easy

Practical and Financial Literacy

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Overview of the concept

This is how you split a restaurant bill, a taxi fare, or a shared gift fairly between friends, including the tip and tax, so everyone pays their share and nobody argues at the table. The bill itself is only the start, because tax and tip have to be shared too, and splitting them wrong leaves someone paying too much. Working out each share properly means everyone pays the same fair amount, and the total adds up exactly. That is how a meal with friends ends well, instead of ending in an argument over the bill.



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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q Four friends share a $120 bill equally. How much does each person pay?

SOLUTION

This is an equal-split question, so start with the one rule to remember: each person's share is the total divided by the number of people.

The total is $120 and there are 4 people, so each share is 120 divided by 4. One hundred twenty divided by 4 is 30.

So each person pays $30.

EXAMPLE 2

Q Three friends share a $90 bill and a $18 tip equally. How much does each person pay?

SOLUTION

This is a split-with-tip question, so add the tip to the bill before you split. A tip is part of what the group pays, so it goes into the total.

The total is $90 + $18, which is $108. There are 3 people, so each share is 108 divided by 3, which is 36.

So each person pays $36.

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Practice questions

1. A $48 meal is shared by 4 friends. How much does each person pay?

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2. Two friends share a $50 bill. One pays $30. How much does the other pay?

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3. A bill is $60 and the tip is $12.
Three friends share them equally. How much does each person pay?

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4 A bill is $100, plus 10% tax. Four friends share the total equally. How much does each person pay?

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5 A $90 bill is shared equally by 6 friends. Each person pays with a $20 bill. How much change does each person get?

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6 A $90 bill is split between 3 friends, but one friend has already paid $30. How much do the other two pay each?

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7 Ana orders $20, Ben orders $45, and they share a $30 platter equally. What is Ana's share before tax and tip?

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8 Ana orders $20, Ben orders $45, and they share a $30 platter equally. What is the total bill before tax and tip?

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9 A $48 bill is split between 3 friends. How much does the friend who pays double the others pay?

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10 A $70 bill is shared by 3 friends. How much does each person pay, to the nearest cent?

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ANSWER KEY

1. 12

2. 20

3. 24

4. 27.5

5. 5

6. 30

7. 35

8. 95

9. 24

10. 23.33

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