Place Value of Decimals

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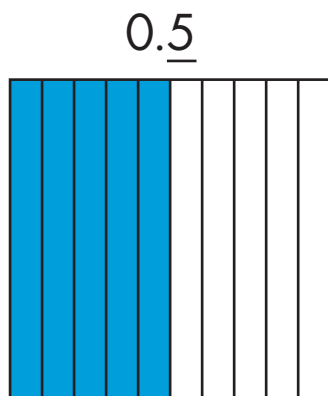
As with whole numbers, the value of a digit changes depending on its place in a decimal number.

thousands place	hundreds place	tens place	ones place	•	tenths place	hundredths place	thousandths place

decimal point
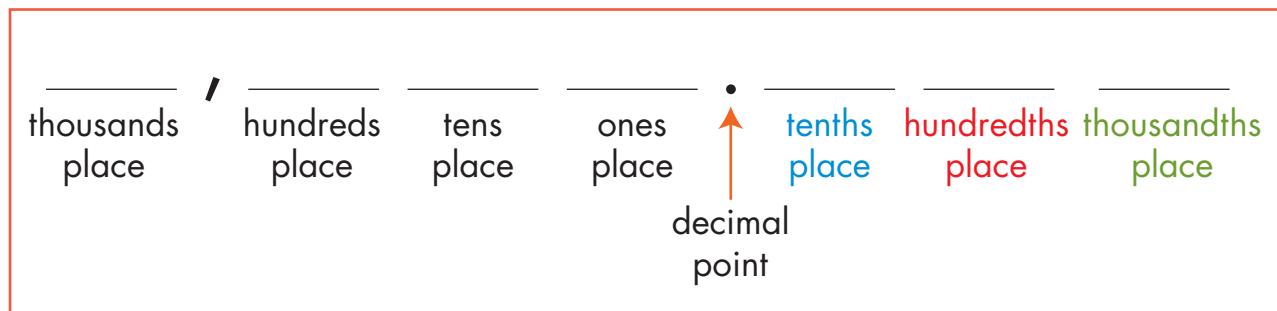
In these two examples, the digit 5 has different values.

0.5

The digit 5 in the tenths place represents $\frac{5}{10}$.

0.45
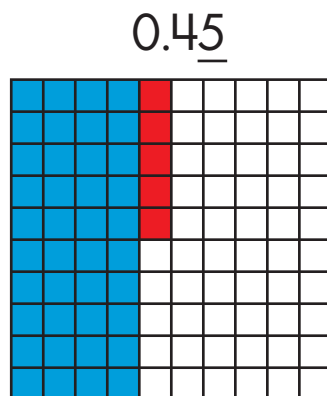
The digit 5 in the hundredths place represents $\frac{5}{100}$.
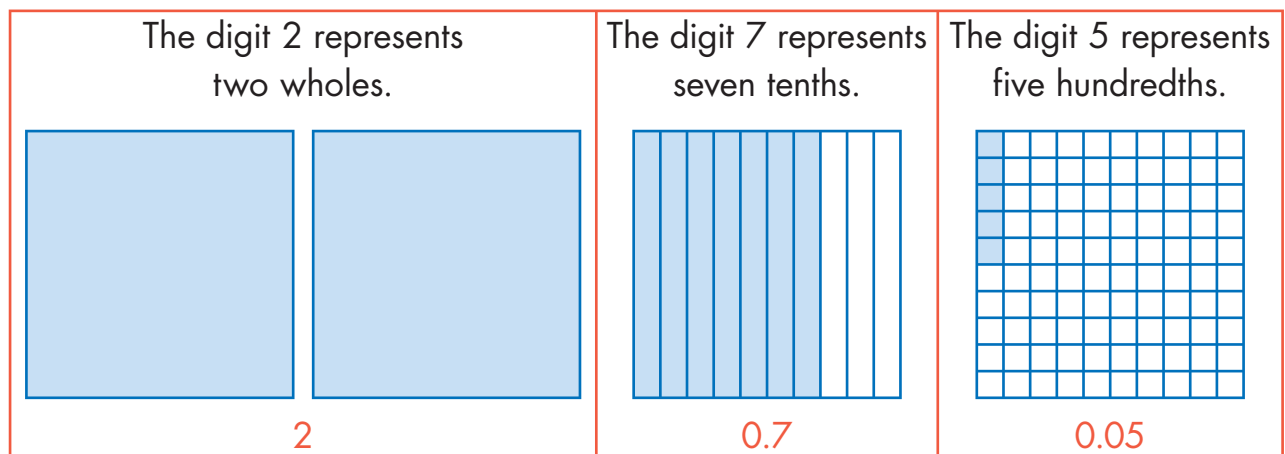
What are the values of the digits in this number?   0.39

Place Value of Decimals

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Look at the values of the digits in this number:

2.75
two and seventy-five hundredths

The digit 2 represents two wholes.	The digit 7 represents seven tenths.	The digit 5 represents five hundredths.
2	0.7	0.05

$$2.75 = 2 + 0.7 + 0.05$$

For decimals greater than one, read the whole number, say "and" for the decimal point, then read the decimal.

Here are some more examples:

10.5 ten and five tenths	200.05 two hundred and five hundredths	17.45 seventeen and forty-five hundredths

How would you say this number?
   40.35
How would you write this number?
   three hundred five and four tenths