

Place Value Tents – How to Create

Prepared by Lola Sleep for MathsMeet 2018, MTANT annual conference.

*These instructions will create **two** sets of Place Value Tents.*

Note: The font used for these tents, Chalkboard, is close to the numbers in Victorian Cursive except for the 9. A free Victorian Cursive font was tried to be used but the character spacing could not be adjusted enough to get the digits close enough together.

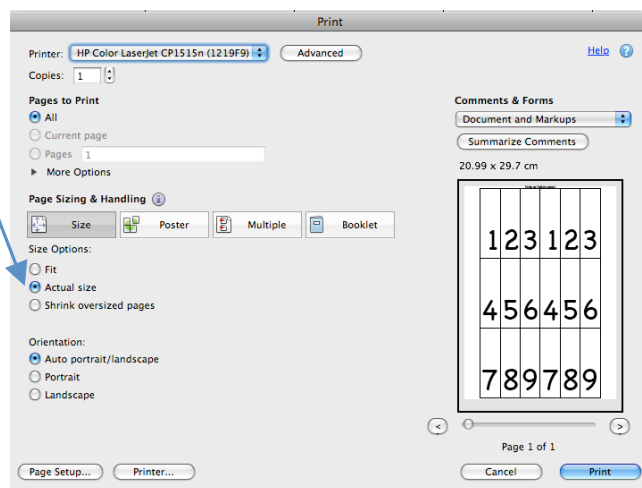
Step 1:

Print the PlaceValueTents on to the appropriate coloured A4 paper by opening the following pdf documents:

- PlaceValueTentsLSleepVersionUnits.pdf on **Yellow** paper (1 sheet)
- PlaceValueTentsLSleepVersionTens.pdf on **Pink** paper (2 sheets)
- PlaceValueTentsLSleepVersionHundreds.pdf on **Blue** paper (3 sheets)
- PlaceValueTentsLSleepVersionThousands.pdf on **Green** paper (3 sheets)
- PlaceValueTentsLSleepVersionTenThousands.pdf on **Orange** paper (6 sheets)

NOTE: I recommend that you print one copy on white paper first to check that your printer settings give you the full sized version. In the **Adobe Reader Print** dialog box, under **Size Options** check **Actual Size**.

The *Preview* seems to suggest that the top and bottom will print too close to the edge of the page but this is may not be the case when you print.



Step 2:

See 'In **retrospect**' in **Step 3** if you will be using a paper trimmer to cut the digit cards *before* laminating the cards.

Laminate the 15 coloured sheets of paper from Step 1.

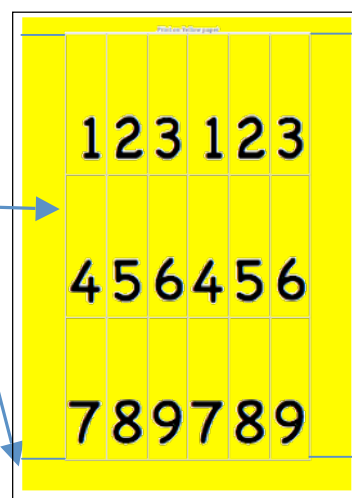
Step 3:

Cut out the individual Place Value Tents by cutting along the black lines.

If using a paper trimmer, I suggest your use a ruler and a pen to extend the top and bottom lines to the edge of the paper so that it is easier to align these lines along the cutting edge of the trimmer.

In **retrospect** it would be easier to do this on each of the pages *before* laminating the paper.

Cutting the top and bottom edges first allows all of the vertical lines to go to the edge of the paper to allow them to be lined up with the cutting edge of the trimmer. Then cut through all of the vertical lines and then the horizontal lines to create each individual digit card.



Place Value Tents – How to Create continued ...

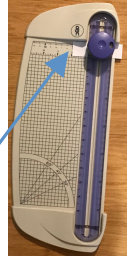
Step 4:

To fold the Place Value Tents use one of the following methods **after you have decided where to make the fold**. When printed and cut the Place Value cards should be 9 cm high. I suggest making the fold around the 5cm mark *from the bottom* of the card.



Folding Method 1: Using a craft paper trimmer **with** a fold/crease/scoring 'blade'. You will need to insert the Place Value card *upside down* into the trimmer with the scoring blade installed.

Line up the bottom of the card into the trimmer so that it will score at the distance required.



Hold the card firmly and score the card and then take it out and fold along the score line to get a clean fold.

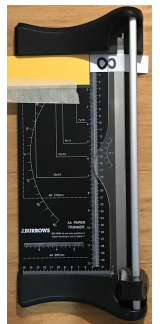
Folding Method 2: Using a paper trimmer **without** a fold/crease/scoring 'blade'.

Tape a laminated piece of offcut on to the trimmer so that it lines up at the 5cm mark. Move the cutting blade to the other end of the trimmer.

Insert the Place Value card into the trimmer, *right way up*, with the bottom of the card inserted and butt it up against the taped offcut.

With your left hand firmly hold down the card and with your right hand push down along the cutting edge of the trimmer to make the fold.

Remove the card and fold along the fold line to get a clean fold.



Folding Method 3: Using a ruler and a blunt knife or equivalent tool.

Line up the ruler on the *back* of the card at the 5cm from the bottom mark.

Holding the card and ruler firmly with one hand, use the knife with the other hand to score the card.

Remove the card and fold along the fold line to get a clean fold.

Step 5:

Stack each of the individual Place Value Tents in order for each place value – units, tens, hundreds, thousands and ten thousands, starting with the 9 digit, then 8 digit etc so that the 1 digit is on top.

Stack all of the Place Value Tents together and store each set in its a clip seal bag.



(Note: These PV Tents were laminated so that the laminate sealed each side of the tent. This is not really necessary and makes the process much slower.)

Using Your Place Value Tents

Once students have gone through activities using a range of aids to develop their number sense and initial place value understanding, these tents can be used to reinforce their place value understanding.

It is recommended every student in your class have their own set of Place Value Tents. Hence, start making the Place Value Tents long before you intend to use them as it does take time. Remember the set of documents above will make two sets of Place Value Tents and so you will need repeat the above process $(\# \text{ students})/2$ times for your class.

Go to <http://shelleygrayteaching.com/place-value-tent-cards/> for some ideas and then develop your own. For example: showing how Front End Addition works and as a visual aid for students to be able to do this mentally; Comparing the size of numbers; counting in 1s, 10s etc and other numbers; as an aid to adding and subtracting; ...

[Note: The link on Shelley's site will take you to the Manitoba, Canada, Education and Training site where there are a range of other resources. The Place Value templates at the bottom of the web page are designed for US Letter sized paper and use more paper than the ones I have designed that use A4 paper and a different font.]