

EXCEL CALCULATIONS

One thing to remember with any calculation, whether it is on paper or in Excel is the correct order. This makes a difference to the answer.

What do you think the answer to $2 + 3 \times 5$ is?

Is it $(2 + 3) \times 5 = 5 \times 5 = 25$?

or $2 + (3 \times 5) = 2 + 15 = 17$?

BODMAS can come to the rescue and give us rules to follow so that we always get the right answer:

(B)rackets

(O)rder (anything raised to the power of a number)

(D)ivision

(M)ultiplication

(A)ddition

(S)ubtraction

It is quite common for people to forget that brackets always come first - which means you can calculate the answer of whatever is in the brackets before you attempt to calculate the rest of the problem.

Once you've worked out everything in the brackets, normally these sorts of problems become very easy!