

# Ordering Decimals

To **put decimal numbers in order of size**, we need to understand their place value. One way to do this is to use a place value chart.

To put decimal numbers in order of decreasing (large to small) size:

1. Write each number in a place value chart ensuring that you align the digits according to their correct place value.
2. If the numbers are different lengths, you may find it helpful to fill in any gaps with a zero. Compare the numbers starting with the leftmost (largest) place value (↑). The number with the **largest** digit in this column will be the largest number. The number with the next largest digit will be the second largest number. Continue until all numbers have been placed in order of decreasing size.
3. If two or more numbers have the same digit in a place value column, move right to the next column (→) and compare the digits from the same number.
4. State your final answer.

**Example:** Put these numbers in order of decreasing size: 0.31, 0.4, 0.34, 0.307.

Ones			Decimals		
Hundreds	Tens	Units	Tenths $\frac{1}{10}$	Hundredths $\frac{1}{100}$	Thousandths $\frac{1}{1000}$
		0	3	1	0
		0	4	0	0
		0	3	4	0
		0	3	0	7



**Answer:** 0.4, 0.34, 0.31, 0.307

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# Ordering Decimals

To **put numbers in order of size**, we need to understand their place value. One way to do this is to use a place value chart.

To put decimal numbers in order of increasing (small to large) size:

1. Write each number in a place value chart ensuring that you align the digits according to their correct place value.
2. If the numbers are different lengths, you may find it helpful to fill in any gaps with a zero. Compare the numbers starting with the leftmost (largest) place value (↑). The number with the **smallest** digit in this column will be the smallest number. The number with the next smallest digit will be the second smallest number. Continue until all numbers have been placed in order of decreasing size.
3. If two or more numbers have the same digit in a place value column, move right to the next column (→) and compare the digits from the same number.
4. State your final answer.

**Example:** Put these numbers in order of increasing size: 0.6, 0.08, 0.169, 0.37.

Ones			Decimals		
Hundreds	Tens	Units	Tenths $\frac{1}{10}$	Hundredths $\frac{1}{100}$	Thousandths $\frac{1}{1000}$
		0	6	0	0
		0	0	8	0
		0	1	6	9
		0	3	7	0



**Answer:** 0.08, 0.169, 0.37, 0.6

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