

Magic Calculator Cards

Get Ready

Print out this page and carefully cut out the five Magic Calculator Cards. Then read the instructions on the next page to see how you can make it seem like your mind is a magical calculator!

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Make Magic!

Here's how you can use your Magic Calculator Cards to amaze a friend!

1. Say to your friend, "Think of a number between 1 and 31, but don't tell me. Keep it a secret."

2. Give your friend the cards and say, "Look at the cards one at a time. If your secret number is on the card, put it in my hand."

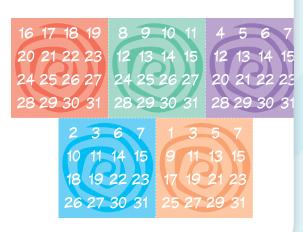
3. Your friend will look at each card and give you some of them. Secretly add up the numbers in the top left corner of all the cards she gives you. The total will tell you her secret number. Remember it!



4. Hold the cards like a calculator. Press on the numbers just like you'd press the keys on a calculator, pretending that you're adding up numbers. Then, in a funny electronic voice, say, "My calculations tell me your number is...(and name her secret number)."

How'd it Work?

Check out those numbers in the top left hand corners of the cards. If you put them in order, 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, you'll notice a pattern. Each number is double the number before it. Any number that your friend chooses is the sum of a unique combination of these five numbers. Those numbers will be the ones in the corner of the cards she gives you! All you have to do is add them up!



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