

Roman Numerals 1 to 1,000: Symbols and Rules

Seven letters make every Roman numeral. M is 1,000.

I	V	X	L	C	D	M
1	5	10	50	100	500	1,000

Ones	
1	I
2	II
3	III
4	IV
5	V
6	VI
7	VII
8	VIII
9	IX

Tens	
10	X
20	XX
30	XXX
40	XL
50	L
60	LX
70	LXX
80	LXXX
90	XC

Hundreds	
100	C
200	CC
300	CCC
400	CD
500	D
600	DC
700	DCC
800	DCCC
900	CM

The rules

- 1 Read from left to right. When a numeral is the same size or smaller than the one before it, add.**
 $VI = 5 + 1 = 6$ $LX = 50 + 10 = 60$ $CCC = 100 + 100 + 100 = 300$
- 2 When a smaller numeral comes just before a bigger one, subtract the smaller one.**
 $IV = 5 - 1 = 4$ $XC = 100 - 10 = 90$ There are only six: IV, IX, XL, XC, CD, CM.
- 3 The same numeral is written at most three times in a row.**
III = 3, but 4 is IV. XXX = 30, but 40 is XL. V, L and D are never repeated.

How to write 1,987

Split the number into thousands, hundreds, tens and ones. Write each part, then put them together.

1,000		900		80		7		1,987
M	+	CM	+	LXXX	+	VII	=	MCMLXXXVII

More: 14 = XIV 49 = XLIX 444 = CDXLIV 2,026 = MMXXVI