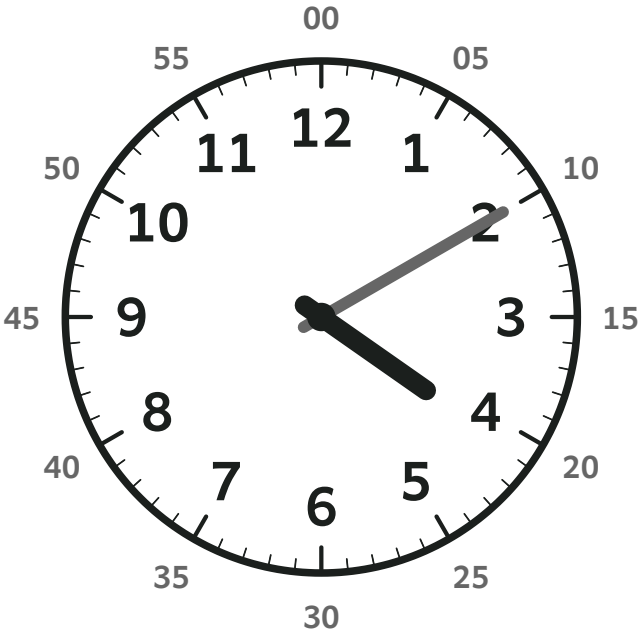
How to Tell Time

The hour hand, the minute hand, and the times that have their own names.

The two hands

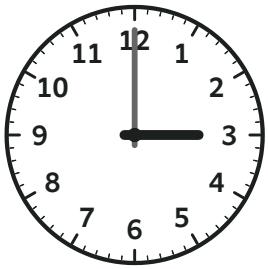


Hour hand (short)
Points to the hour.
It creeps toward the next number as the hour goes by.

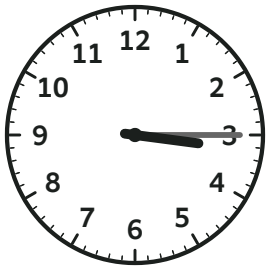
Minute hand (long)
Points to the minutes.
Each number is 5 more minutes, so count by 5s: 5, 10, 15, 20 ...

This clock shows **4:10**

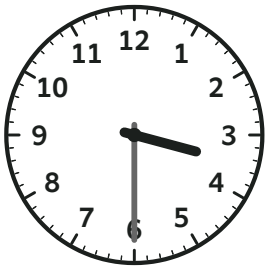
Times with special names



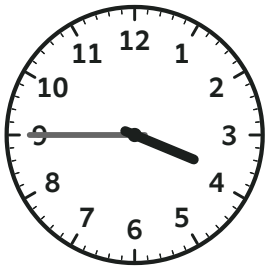
3:00
three o'clock
minute hand on 12



3:15
quarter past three
minute hand on 3



3:30
half past three
minute hand on 6



3:45
quarter to four
minute hand on 9

Watch out

When the hour hand is between two numbers, the hour is the number it has already passed, not the one it is heading for.

At 3:45 the hour hand is nearly at 4, but it is still 3 something.

Read the short hand first, then the long hand.