

B	() Brackets
O	A² Orders
D	÷ Division
	or
M	X Multiplication
A	+ Addition
	or
S	- Subtraction

BODMAS is an acronym to help you remember the Order of Operations - the order you should complete the calculation in.

Remember: division and multiplication have the same importance as each other. Addition and subtraction have the same importance as each other too (but come after the multiplication and division).

$$\underline{(19-7)} + \underline{8^2} + 9 =$$

Brackets first... $19-7=12$
 Now orders... $8^2=64$
 The calculation is now
 $12 + 64 + 9 = \underline{\underline{85}}$

Why is BODMAS important?

Let's look at this question $6 \times 7 - 4 \times 8 =$

If we just go from left to right we get

$$\dots 6 \times 7 = 42 \quad 42 - 4 = 38 \quad 38 \times 8 = \underline{\underline{304}}$$

But, using BODMAS... $\underline{6 \times 7} - \underline{4 \times 8} =$

$$6 \times 7 = 42 \quad 4 \times 8 = 32 \quad 42 - 32 = \underline{\underline{10}}$$

10 is correct - and very different to 304!