Estimate Quotients Using Compatible Numbers

Compatible numbers are numbers that are easy to compute mentally. In division, one compatible number divides evenly into the other. Think of the multiples of a number to help you find compatible numbers.

Estimate. 6 216

Step 1 Think of these multiples of 6:

6

12

18

24

30

36

42

48

54

Find multiples that are close to the first 2 digits of the dividend. <u>18</u> tens and <u>24</u> tens are both close to <u>21</u> tens. You can use either or both numbers to estimate the quotient.

Step 2 Estimate using compatible numbers.

 $180 \div 6 = 30$

 $216 \div 6$

So, 216 \div 6 is between 30 and 40.

Step 3 Decide whether the estimate is closer to 30 or 40.

$$216 - 180 = 36$$

$$216 - 180 = 36$$
 $240 - 216 = 24$

216 is closer to 240, so use $\frac{40}{2}$ as the estimate.

Use compatible numbers to estimate the quotient.

1 3 252

2 6 546

3 4 2,545

4 5 314

5 2 1,578

6 8 289