

Simple Interest

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What is Simple Interest?

Suppose you put an amount of money in the bank. Let's call this initial amount P . We are told that after t years your money will earn interest each year. That yearly or *annual* amount of interest that your money earns is denoted by r or r is the *interest rate*. This value is usually expressed as a decimal value or as a percentage. e.g. 0.06 or 6%. Our goal is to try and figure out how much money you will earn after t years and what your total amount will be after those t years. Let's start by defining a few values with variables.

Variable	Name	Description
P	Principal	This is the original amount you deposited into the bank or put into the investment
r	annual interest rate	This is the rate at which your money will "grow" per year.
t	time in years	This is the amount of time that you have invested your money P for.
I	interest earned	This is the amount of interest you earned over the time period t .
A	total amount	This is the total amount you have, $P + I$, after the investment period t .

The relationship between these variables is,

$$I = Prt \text{ and} \tag{1}$$

$$A = P + I = P + Prt \tag{2}$$

Now we have the interest earned over that time period t ,

$$I = Prt$$

and the total amount of money you have after t years is,

$$A = P + I$$

Exercises

- Find the principal when,
 - $I = \$192$, $r = 6\%/year$, $t = 4$ years.
 - $I = \$20$, $r = 2\%/year$, $t = 20$ months.
- Find the rate when,
 - $P = \$300$, $t = 2.5years$, $I = \$140$
 - $P = \$9600$, $t = 3month$, $Is = \$72$
- Find the time when,
 - $P = \$500$, $r = 7.5\%$, $I = \$150$
 - $P = \$700$, $r = 18\%$, $I = \$78$
- Find the interest an total amount given,
 - $P = \$640$, $r = 12.5\%/year$, $t = 6months$
 - $P = \$10000$, $r = 18\%/year$, $t = 7years$
- What sum of money will earn an interest of \$162 in 3 years at 12 % per annum?
- At what rate per year will a sum of money double itself in 6 years?