

Simple Interest

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2021

## 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,

$$I = Prt \quad \text{and} \quad (1)$$

$$A = P + I = P + Prt \quad (2)$$

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,
  - $I = \$250$ ,  $r = 1.75\%/year$ ,  $t = 10$  years.
  - $I = \$1250$ ,  $r = 5.5\%/year$ ,  $t = 5$  years.
- Find the rate when,
  - $P = \$10000$ ,  $t = 4years$ ,  $I = \$1750$
  - $P = \$500$ ,  $t = 5years$ ,  $I = \$50$
- Find the time when,
  - $P = \$2000$ ,  $r = 3.5\%$ ,  $I = \$700$
  - $P = \$3500$ ,  $r = 1.75\%$ ,  $I = \$306.25$
- Find the interest an total amount given,
  - $P = \$3075$ ,  $r = 8.15\%/year$ ,  $t = 6years$
  - $P = \$5000$ ,  $r = 6.25\%/year$ ,  $t = 5years$
- In what time will a sum of money double itself at 5 %/ year?
- \$4000 were lent each to Ron and Rob at 15% / year for 3/5 years and 5 years respectively. Find the differenc ein the interest paid to them.