

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,

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

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

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,
  - $I = \$210$ ,  $r = 3.75\%/year$ ,  $t = 40$  months.
  - $I = \$325$ ,  $r = 4.25\%/year$ ,  $t = 3$  years.
- Find the rate when,
  - $P = \$2500$ ,  $t = 18months$ ,  $I = \$600$
  - $P = \$8000$ ,  $t = 6years$ ,  $I = \$2000$
- Find the time when,
  - $P = \$925$ ,  $r = 2.25\%$ ,  $I = \$346.88$
  - $P = \$750$ ,  $r = 4.5\%$ ,  $I = \$405$
- Find the interest an total amount given,
  - $P = \$2400$ ,  $r = 9.75\%/year$ ,  $t = 18months$
  - $P = \$2250$ ,  $r = 7.5\%/year$ ,  $t = 4years$
- Simple interest on a sum is  $\frac{4}{9}$  of the sum. Find the rate/year and time if bouth are numerically equal?
- Sleepy and Grumpy borrowed \$3000 and \$3500, respectively, at the sa,e rate of simple interest for 3 years. If Grumpy paid \$150 more interest than Sleepy. find the rate of interest/year?