

numbers

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Italian Steps

Stage 1 Flying visit: Local transport In Venice, Giovanna buys tickets to Piazza San Marco by vaporetto. Following her progress will let you get familiar with the numbers 1 to 10, learn how to talk in euros and discover how Italian words don't just add an -s in the plural as in English.

Stage 4 Places: Driving Lorenzo and Giovanna drive to picturesque Bassano and are given several directions which include distances in hundreds of metres. Go to the *Build sentences* section, which gives you the opportunity to hear and learn the numbers at your own pace.

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 0 zero | 11 undici | 21 ventuno |
| 1 uno | 12 dodici | 22 ventidue |
| 2 due | 13 tredici | 30 trenta |
| 3 tre | 14 quattordici | 40 quaranta |
| 4 quattro | 15 quindici | 50 cinquanta |
| 5 cinque | 16 sedici | 60 sessanta |
| 6 sei | 17 diciassette | 70 settanta |
| 7 sette | 18 diciotto | 80 ottanta |
| 8 otto | 19 diciannove | 90 novanta |
| 9 nove | 20 venti | 100 cento |
| 10 dieci | | |

Learning hints

Numbers are something which can be practised when you're out and about on your own because they're all around. Just get into the habit of saying in Italian all the numbers you see: bus numbers, car number plates, adverts, prices, telephone numbers ...

If you find you still need practice and have time at home, cut up a piece of card to make ten small tiles. Write the digits 0-9 on them and drop them into an envelope. Without looking, take one out and say the number. When you're happy that you know the low numbers, take two tiles out and say both two-digit numbers, i.e. 3 and 5 give 35 and 53.

Quiz

1. Write **centocinquantacinque** in figures.
2. What's '15 euros' in Italian?
3. What's the total cost in Italian of two tickets, one costing €5,50 and the other €7,49?
4. How would you write €137 in words on a cheque?
5. How far away is a junction **a quattroceto metri**?
6. You're told an item costs **sessantasei euro e settanta**. Is that €66,60, €76,70, €67,60 or €66,70?

Answers on www.bbc.co.uk/languages/italian/answers.shtml