

Multiplying by nine using your hands

Here is a simple way to multiply by nine using your fingers.

1. Hold both your hands up with palms facing you. Number the fingers from left to right as one to ten. (1, 2, 3...)
2. Now hold down the finger of the number you want to multiply by nine. For example, we are going to multiply $9 \cdot 1$. To do this, put the first finger down and count the number of fingers to the left and right of the finger down. In this case, there are no fingers to the left and 9 fingers to the right. So the solution is 9.
3. And now we are going to multiply nine by two. Put the second finger down. There is one finger on the left and eight fingers on the right. So 1 and 8 makes 18. (Try with 9 times 4 and 9 times 8)

Remember, that the fingers to the left are the tens and the fingers to the right are units.

