

Maths Takeaway



This month's special

Cleaning services

Did you know . . .

- Compared to last year, 44% of cleaning companies have spent more time on training, 31% have spent more money and 38% about the same time and money. Less than one in five have spent either less time or money on training.
- Nearly a third of cleaning companies state that skills levels of new recruits have decreased over the past six months.

The Cleaning Sector, Barometer Analysis, October 2008, www.assetskills.org



Starters

Do any of your employees need to be better at . . .

- working out correct ratios for diluting cleaning fluids?
- completing time sheets and work-related documents?
- measuring liquids accurately?
- understanding weights for safe lifting of machinery, etc.?
- managing stock control effectively?

See the skills checklists on the Move On web site for examples of other maths skills that you might want to improve within your organisation:

www.move-on.org.uk/numeracy_resources.asp

Main course

- In the Cleaning and Support Services NVQ Level 1, 83% of the units require Level 1 numeracy.
- In Customer Care NVQ Level 2, 75% of the units require Level 2 numeracy skills.

' . . . support through Train to Gain already enables employers in the sector to access advice on skills and on the Skills Pledge. Train to Gain also offers funding support for a range of vocational skills and qualifications for individuals working for employers of all sizes.'

www.assetskills.org

For advice on addressing skills in the workplace, and to find out about government support or training, call 08000 15 55 45 or visit www.traintogain.gov.uk.

Specials

Maths isn't just about calculations – it's also behind measuring, estimating and being more accurate:

- more accurate → less waste
- more accurate → make fewer mistakes



Maths isn't just about calculations – it's also behind checking, timing, planning, problem solving and being more organised:

- more organised → need less supervision
- more organised → make fewer mistakes
- more organised → be a better team leader

Set menu

Can your employees answer the following questions?

- 1 A company keeps its disinfectant in 4.5 litre containers. How many litres can seven containers hold?
a) 28 litres b) 28.35 litres
c) 28.5 litres d) 31.5 litres
- 2 Carpet cleaner is mixed with water in the ratio 1:5. If 2.4 litres of cleaner is used, how much water is added?
a) 5 litres b) 12 litres
c) 15 litres d) 24 litres
- 3 A caretaker earns £5.90 per hour. How much does he earn for 40 hours' work?
a) £206.00 b) £203.60
c) £236.00 d) £239.00

Staff can check their maths skills by doing the mini-test at:

www.move-on.org.uk/testyourskills.asp

Extras

Grin or groan

Q: Why is the clock in the canteen always slow?

A: Because it goes back four seconds.

Resources

Log onto the iRoute at:

www.move-on.org.uk

– for more information on Skills for Life and how to encourage skills development at work.

Everyone can take the opportunity to improve their skills by logging on to the Move On Learner Route at:

www.move-on.org.uk