What does E mean on a calculator?

From: A Maths Dictionary for Kids by Jenny Eather at www.amathsdictionaryforkids.com

If a number is too big or too small to fit in a calculator display, often, scientific notation using the letter E (or e) for exponent (power or index) will be used.

Practice

If you multiply 10 000 000 000 x 10 000 000 000 = the answer is too big so you will see 1e+20 which means one times ten to the power of 20 or 1.0 with the decimal point moved 20 places to the right.

Click the calculator buttons to multiply large numbers.

Examples

decimal notation
- 100 000 000 000 000 000 000
- 0.000 000 000 000 000 000 01

scientific notation
- 1 x 10^{20}
- 1 x 10^{-20}

calculator version
- 1e + 20
- 1e - 20

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