Arabic A1, lesson 7: numbers from 0 to 10

A1 Lesson 7 of 18

You count from 0 to 10, give a number and combine a number with a noun.

Vocabulary | Dialogue | Grammar | Exercises

Pronunciation is written in Latin letters (ā, ī, ū = long vowels; ḥ, ṣ, ḍ, ṭ, ẓ = emphatic consonants; ʿ = the letter ع). The Arabic is always fully vowelled.

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
صِفْرٌ	*ṣifr*	zero
وَاحِدٌ	*wāḥid*	one
اِثْنَانِ	*ithnān*	two
ثَلَاثَةٌ	*thalātha*	three
أَرْبَعَةٌ	*arbaʿa*	four
خَمْسَةٌ	*khamsa*	five

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
سِتَّةٌ	*sitta*	six
سَبْعَةٌ	*sabʿa*	seven
ثَمَانِيَةٌ	*thamāniya*	eight
تِسْعَةٌ	*tisʿa*	nine
عَشَرَةٌ	*ʿashara*	ten
رَقْمٌ	*raqm*	a number
كُتُبٌ	*kutub*	books (plural)
سَيَّارَاتٌ	*sayyārāt*	cars (plural)

KARIM

مَا رَقْمُ بَيْتِكِ؟

mā raqmu baytiki?

What is your house number? (to a woman)

SALMA

رَقْمُ بَيْتِي سَبْعَةٌ. وَمَا رَقْمُ بَيْتِكَ؟

raqmu baytī sabʿa. wa mā raqmu baytika?

My house number is seven. And yours?

KARIM

رَقْمُ بَيْتِي ثَلَاثَةٌ.

raqmu baytī thalātha.

My house number is three.

SALMA

مَا رَقْمُ هَاتِفِكَ؟

mā raqmu hātifika?

What is your phone number?

KARIM

رَقْمُ هَاتِفِي وَاحِدٌ، اِثْنَانِ، خَمْسَةٌ.

raqmu hātifī wāḥid, ithnān, khamsa.

My number is one, two, five.

SALMA

شُكْرًا!

shukran!

Thank you!

Numbers with the noun

1 and 2 come **after** the noun and agree with it: كِتَابٌ وَاحِدٌ (one book), سَيَّارَةٌ وَاحِدَةٌ (one car), كِتَابَانِ (two books, the dual).

From 3 to 10 the number comes **before** a plural noun, and it takes the opposite gender of the noun: it keeps the ة with a masculine noun (ثَلَاثَةُ كُتُبٍ, three books) and drops it with a feminine noun (ثَلَاثُ سَيَّارَاتٍ, three cars). You will meet this rule again at level A2.

Examples

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
كِتَابٌ وَاحِدٌ	*kitāb wāḥid*	one book
سَيَّارَةٌ وَاحِدَةٌ	*sayyāra wāḥida*	one car
ثَلَاثَةُ كُتُبٍ	*thalāthatu kutubin*	three books
خَمْسُ سَيَّارَاتٍ	*khamsu sayyārātin*	five cars

Ibrahim explains



For numbers 3 to 10 the gender is reversed: a feminine noun takes the number without ة.

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