Guide to:
Unitary method

maths Links

Explanation:

The **unitary method** solves direct proportion problems in two clear steps: first **divide to find the value of 1 unit** (one item, 1 g, or 1 ml), and then **multiply by the number of units** you need.

Writing down the value of **1 item** clearly in the middle of your working guarantees method marks and avoids mistakes when scaling recipes, weights, or costs.

Example 1: 5 identical notebooks cost **£6.75**. Work out the total cost of **8 of these notebooks**.

Solution:

Step 1: Divide by 5 to find the cost of **1 notebook**:
• £6.75 ÷ 5 = **£1.35**
Step 2: Multiply by 8 to find the cost of **8 notebooks**:
• £1.35 × 8 = **£10.80**

Answer: £10.80

Example 2: A recipe for **6 flapjacks** uses **150 g** of oats.
How many grams of oats are needed to make **15 flapjacks**?

Solution:

Step 1: Divide by 6 to find oats for **1 flapjack**:
• 150 g ÷ 6 = **25 g per flapjack**
Step 2: Multiply by 15 for **15 flapjacks**:
• 25 g × 15 = **375 g**

Answer: 375 g

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