

# Max's Market Maths: Subtraction Challenges

*Learning objective: To subtract numbers with up to four digits using the formal written method of columnar subtraction, including exchanges.*

Help Max the monkey work out the total change from his market shopping trip. Use the column method to show your working out. Remember to line up your thousands, hundreds, tens, and ones carefully!

Max the monkey is visiting the village market to buy supplies for his friends. He starts the day with £50.00 in his pocket. At the fruit stall, he buys a basket of apples for £12.50. Then, he visits the craft stall to buy colourful ribbons for Zara the zebra, which cost £8.75. Finally, he finds a beautiful notebook for Pip the bookworm for £5.20. Max needs your help to calculate how much money he has left after each purchase.

*Word bank: difference · exchange · remainder · total · column · value*

**1. Max starts with £50.00. After buying the apples for £12.50, how much money does he have left? (2 marks)**

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**2. Using his remaining money, Max buys the ribbons for £8.75. What is the new total in his pocket? (2 marks)**

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**3. Calculate the difference between the cost of the apples (£12.50) and the cost of the notebook (£5.20). (2 marks)**

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**4. If Max had started with £100.00 instead of £50.00, how much change would he have had after buying all three items (apples £12.50, ribbons £8.75, notebook £5.20)? (3 marks)**

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**5. Explain why it is important to align the decimal points when subtracting money. (2 marks)**

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**Draw: Draw a picture of Max the monkey at the market stall holding his basket of fruit and his new notebook.**



*Extension challenge: Max finds a rare golden coin worth £250.00! If he uses this coin to pay for an item that costs £147.65, how much change will he get? Show your column subtraction method clearly.*