

## Roman numerals

The Romans can express large numbers by the use of few letters of the alphabetic a simple notation indicating addition or subtraction.

ss	½	I	1	V	5	X	10
L	50	C	100	D	500	M	1000

### Methods of expression:

1. When the second of the tow letters has a value equal to or smaller than the first, their values are added.

II= 2	III= 3	VI= 6	XII= 12
Li= 51	Lxvi= 66	Lxxxviii= 88	Dv= 505

2. When the second of the tow letters has a value greater than the first, the smaller is to be subtracted.

IV= 4	XIV= 14	XXIV= 24	XLIV= 44
ix= 9	xix= 19	xl= 40	xc= 90

3. I, X, and C are customarily used as "subtractors". Each is used to subtract only form the two characters on the next higher value than itself, thus I is used to subtract from V and X, X from L and C, while C from D and M.

49 is written as XLIX, not IL

4. A "subtractors" is placed so as to precede only one character higher than itself.

19 is written as XIX, not IXX

5. Any character cannot be repeated more than three times.