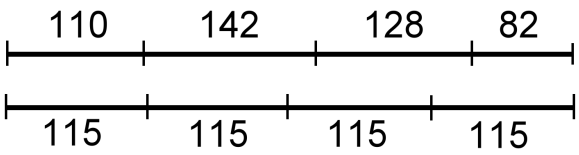
Average

The Millers went on a trip. The first day, they drove 110 miles, the second day, 142 miles, the third day, 126 miles, and the last day, 82 miles. The Millers drove a total of 460 miles.

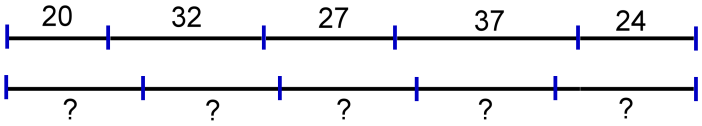
In the diagram, we have put those distances as sticks one after another, though of course in reality they did not drive just straight stretches of roads.



IF they had driven 115 miles each day, it would have totaled the same 460 miles.

On average, the Millers drove 115 miles a day, or their ***average*** daily mileage was 115 miles.

What is the average of 20, 32, 27, 37, and 24?
First find the total by adding. Then, divide that into equal parts.



20 + 32 + 27 + 37 + 24 = 140. 140 ÷ 5 = 28. So, the **average** of 20, 32, 27, 37, and 24 is 28.

If these numbers were the ages of club members, we would say the average age of the members is 28 years. However, they could also be distances, weights, volumes, or just plain numbers.

1. Judith's test scores were 78, 87, 69, and 86.
   Find her average score.

2. John measured the temperature five times during a day.
   These are his measuring results:
   18°C, 22°C, 26°C, 23°C, and 16°C.
   Find the average temperature for the day.

3. Dad drove a 414 km stretch in six hours.
   How many kilometers did he drive,
   on the average, in one hour?

Sample worksheet from
www.mathmammoth.com