CRACK THE CASH!

PINDAB PRINTABLE MONEY RIDDLES | Ages 9-14 | Solo, pairs or teams



Small clues. Big money thinking.

Crack 24 money riddles about everyday words, Canadian coins, shopping choices and clever calculations. Read carefully: the tempting first answer is not always the right one.

LEVEL 1 / Name that money word - 8 riddles

LEVEL 2 / Count it and compare it - 8 riddles

LEVEL 3 / Catch the twist - 8 riddles

Includes answer space and a separate answer guide with explanations. No real spending needed.

HOW TO PLAY

Print pages 3-8 for players. Keep pages 9-11 for the answers.

Pick your challenge

Complete a level, choose a few riddles, or try the whole pack. Work alone, with a partner, or in small teams. You need a pencil and optional scrap paper.

Read every clue

Write your answer in the space provided. For a calculation, show your maths. For a word riddle, explain which clue helped. No need to rush.

Check and learn

Reveal the answer after each page or after you finish a level. Give 1 point for a correct answer and 1 point for a correct explanation. For riddles with two requested parts, both are needed for the answer point. Maximum: 48 points.

Different words can work

Accept another term if it matches all the clues. A correct idea matters more than identical wording. The guide explains the intended answers.

Keep the prices simple

All amounts are fictional Canadian dollars. Tax is included and no fees are added unless a riddle says so. Canadian coin names are used. Calculators are optional after a first attempt.

My riddle record

Name / team: _____

Level 1: _____ / 16 Level 2: _____ / 16 Level 3: _____ / 16

Total: _____ / 48

A clue that made me change my mind:

_____

_____

LEVEL 1 / NAME THAT MONEY WORD

Riddles 1-4 | Write your answer and a clue or calculation.

01 / I tell your money where to go before you spend it. I include what comes in and what you plan to use. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

02 / I list what you bought and what you paid. Keep me if you need to check a charge or return an item. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

03 / You hand over $10 for a $6 purchase. I am the money that comes back to you. What am I, and how much am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

04 / I am money coming in, such as pay for a job. I am not the same as money left after costs. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

LEVEL 1 / NAME THAT MONEY WORD

Riddles 5-8 | Write your answer and a clue or calculation.

05 / I am a cost you pay, such as supplies or a bus fare. I make your available money smaller. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

06 / Your stall takes in $18 and spends $7 on all its costs. I am the $11 left after those costs. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

07 / You keep me for a future goal instead of spending me now. I can grow little by little. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

08 / I am the extra money a savings account may pay you for keeping money in it. I am not your original deposit. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

LEVEL 2 / COUNT IT & COMPARE IT

Riddles 9-12 | Write your answer and a clue or calculation.

09 / I am a Canadian coin worth 25 cents. Four of me make $1. What am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

10 / Two of us total $3: one Canadian $2 coin and one Canadian $1 coin. Name us both.

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

11 / I have five Canadian coins: three quarters and two dimes. What is my total value?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

12 / I cost $3.25. You pay with $5. How much change should return to your hand?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

LEVEL 2 / COUNT IT & COMPARE IT

Riddles 13-16 | Write your answer and a clue or calculation.

13 / A $4 notebook travels with a $3 delivery fee. What is the full bill? No other fees or tax are added.

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

14 / I start at $20. A sale takes one quarter of my price away. What is my sale price?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

15 / You have $9 toward an $18 goal. You add $3 each week and spend none. How many more weeks until you reach the goal?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

16 / You sell three bracelets for $5 each. Supplies for all three cost $6 in total, with no other costs. How much profit do you make?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

LEVEL 3 / CATCH THE TWIST

Riddles 17-20 | Write your answer and a clue or calculation.

17 / I am exactly three Canadian coins worth $1 in total. I contain no loonie. My coins are quarters or 50-cent pieces. Which three coins am I?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

18 / Two notebooks cost $6 in total. One costs exactly $2 more than the other. What does each notebook cost?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

19 / You need six pencils. Singles cost $0.50 each. A pack of ten costs $4. Both options are equally suitable. Which costs less for your need, and by how much?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

20 / A bag and a badge cost $11 together. The bag costs $9 more than the badge. How much is the badge?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

LEVEL 3 / CATCH THE TWIST

Riddles 21-24 | Write your answer and a clue or calculation.

21 / You begin with $12. You earn $8, spend $5, then move $6 of what remains into your savings envelope. How much total money do you still own?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

22 / A buy-two-get-one-free offer charges $4 for each paid item. You take three items. There are no extra fees. What is the total, and what is the average cost per item?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

23 / You start a stall with $10. You buy four items at $2 each. You sell three at $4 each. What cash do you finish with, and how many items remain?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

24 / Two friends each save $2 per week. One starts with $6; the other starts with $0. Neither spends anything. After how many weeks will their totals be equal?

Answer: _____

Clue / maths: _____

ANSWERS - KEEP SEPARATE

LEVEL 1 | Riddles 1-8

01 / A budget.

A budget is a plan for money coming in and going out.

02 / A receipt.

A receipt records a purchase; it can help you check charges.

03 / Change: $4.

$10 - $6 = $4.

04 / Income.

Income is money received; some of it may be needed for expenses.

05 / An expense.

An expense is a cost, not money coming in.

06 / Profit.

$18 revenue - $7 costs = $11 profit.

07 / Savings / saved money.

Savings are money set aside for later.

08 / Interest earned.

Some savings accounts pay interest. This clue describes interest earned, not borrowing costs.

ANSWERS - KEEP SEPARATE

LEVEL 2 | Riddles 9-16

09 / A quarter.

4 x $0.25 = $1.

10 / A toonie and a loonie.

$2 + $1 = $3.

11 / $0.95.

3 x $0.25 + 2 x $0.10 = $0.75 + $0.20 = $0.95.

12 / $1.75.

$5.00 - $3.25 = $1.75.

13 / $7.

$4 + $3 = $7. The item price is not the whole cost.

14 / $15.

One quarter of $20 is $5. $20 - $5 = $15.

15 / 3 weeks.

$18 - $9 = $9 remaining. $9 / $3 per week = 3 weeks.

16 / $9.

Sales are 3 x $5 = $15. Profit is $15 - $6 = $9.

ANSWERS - KEEP SEPARATE

LEVEL 3 | Riddles 17-24

17 / One 50-cent piece and two quarters.

$0.50 + $0.25 + $0.25 = $1. A 50-cent piece is a Canadian coin, although uncommon in everyday change.

18 / $2 and $4.

$2 + $4 = $6 and $4 - $2 = $2. They are not $1 and $5.

19 / Six singles; $1 less.

6 x $0.50 = $3. The pack costs $4. Lower cost per pencil does not mean lower spending for this need.

20 / $1.

Badge $1 + bag $10 = $11; the difference is $9. A $2 badge would not fit both clues.

21 / $15.

$12 + $8 - $5 = $15. Moving $6 between your own places does not reduce the total. $9 stays outside savings; $6 is saved.

22 / $8 total; $8/3, or about $2.67 per item.

Pay for two: 2 x $4 = $8. Divide by three items: $2.666... Rounded average is $2.67; the checkout total stays $8.

23 / $14 cash and 1 item.

Cash: $10 - $8 + $12 = $14. Stock: 4 - 3 = 1. The unsold item still exists.

24 / They will never be equal under these rules.

They add the same amount each week, so the $6 gap never changes.