



## Roman numerals

Roman numerals tend to be used for list items, watch and clock faces, chapter headings, copyright dates and to denote film sequels, eg *Rocky II*.

They are written as combinations of seven letters:

I = 1	V = 5	X = 10	L = 50	C = 100	D = 500	M = 1000
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These letters are combined to signify their values. The order of the symbols is important. The first 10 numbers are written as:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X

Helpful rules	Examples
No more than three of the same symbol occur in any one number.	<b>IV</b> <i>not</i> <b>IIII</b> = 4
If smaller numbers follow larger numbers, the numbers are added.	<b>VII</b> = 5 + 1 + 1 = 7 <b>LXV</b> = 50 + 10 + 5 = 65
If a smaller number comes before a larger number, the smaller number is subtracted from the larger.	<b>IX</b> = 10 - 1 = 9 <b>XC</b> = 100 - 10 = 90
Don't use more than one <b>V</b> , <b>L</b> or <b>D</b> successively in one numeral.	<b>X</b> <i>not</i> <b>VV</b> = 10 <b>M</b> <i>not</i> <b>DD</b> = 1000
Do not subtract <b>V</b> , <b>L</b> or <b>D</b> .	<b>XLV</b> <i>not</i> <b>VL</b> = 45 <b>CDL</b> <i>not</i> <b>LD</b> = 450
The <b>I</b> may only be subtracted from <b>V</b> and <b>X</b> .	<b>XCIX</b> <i>not</i> <b>IC</b> = 99
<b>X</b> may only be subtracted from <b>L</b> and <b>C</b> .	<b>CMXC</b> <i>not</i> <b>XM</b> = 990