

Rule To find an average:

1. Find the total of the items to be averaged.
2. Divide the total by the number of items.

EXAMPLE

Karen’s family uses the following units of electricity over four months. These units of electricity are measured by the **kilowatt hour, or kwh**. A **watt** is a unit of electrical power named after James Watt, a Scottish inventor. A **kilowatt** is 1,000 watts. What is the average number of units used per month?

December	323 kwh
January	561 kwh
February	272 kwh
March	311 kwh

Step 1 Find the total.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 323 \text{ kwh} \\
 561 \\
 272 \\
 +311 \\
 \hline
 1467 \text{ kwh}
 \end{array}$$

Step 2 Divide by 4.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 366.8 \approx 367 \text{ kwh} \\
 4 \overline{) 1467.0}
 \end{array}$$

Karen’s family uses an average of 367 kwh per month.

Exercise D Find the average number of units consumed for the following sets. Round each answer to a whole number.

1) 653, 597, 562, 616


2) 542, 506, 488, 445, 391, 366

3) 36, 18, 26, 17, 54, 25, 19

4) 29, 29, 46, 348, 137, 652, 262, 135, 14

5) 1267, 573, 555, 558, 670, 532, 552, 480, 509, 747

6) 566, 653, 597, 562, 616, 572

 http://www.bestplaces.net/cost_of_living/city/ohio/ravenna