



Organizing Data

Data is the information that you collect from your experiment. Data is usually numbers or measurements, such as the volume of liquid collected. Data is collected using your equipment. Organizing data into tables helps you to make sense of it.



Key Facts

- ✓ Data is the information collected from experiments.
- ✓ Data must be organized so that it can be easily reviewed.
- ✓ Calculating the mean of a data set can help you to get an average.

Anomalous results are pieces of data that are very different from the rest and are not close to the mean.

Inaccurate data are ranges of data that are very different from the rest.

Data set 1	Data set 2	Data set 3	Data set 4
22	20	27	35
21	21	21	34
22	22	22	35
22	21	22	35

Calculate the mean from each data set to find the average. Anomalous results are not included when calculating the mean.



Significant Figures

Some numbers in your data may include many decimal points, such as 24.823. In an exam, you may be asked to round your answers to a certain number of significant figures, such as two significant figures. In this example, you would give your answer as 25.

This number gives five significant figures.

24.823
1 2 3 4 5

This number gives two significant figures.

25
1 2