Adding and Subtracting Decimals

To add or subtract decimals, stack them so their decimal points are aligned. You may want to tack on zeros at the end of shorter decimals so you can keep all your digits lined up evenly. Remember, if a number doesn't have a decimal point, then put one at the right end of the number.

Example: 1.23 + 57 + .038 =

1. Line up the numbers like this:
2. Add.

$$
\begin{array}{r}
1.230 \\
57.000 \\
+\ .038 \\
\hline
58.268
\end{array}
$$

Example: 1.23 − .038 =

1. Line up the numbers like this:
2. Subtract.

$$
\begin{array}{r}
1.230 \\
-\ .038 \\
\hline
1.192
\end{array}
$$