

Jeans Are \$20 For 2 Pairs. Kerry Spent \$40 On Jeans. How Many Pairs Did She Buy?

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When shopping for jeans, pricing can often be a determining factor in how many pairs you decide to purchase. In this scenario, we know that jeans are priced at \$20 for 2 pairs, and Kerry has spent exactly \$40 on jeans. The question arises: How many pairs of jeans did Kerry buy? To answer this, we need to analyze the problem carefully, understand the underlying math, and explore different ways to approach such problems. This article provides a comprehensive guide to solving similar shopping and budgeting problems, focusing on the specific example of Kerry and her jeans purchase.

Understanding the Problem

Before diving into calculations, it's essential to clearly understand what information is given and what needs to be determined:

- Price of jeans: \$20 for 2 pairs
- Total amount spent by Kerry: \$40
- Question: How many pairs of jeans did Kerry buy?

This problem involves basic arithmetic and proportional reasoning. It's a common type of question in math word problems, especially in the context of shopping and budgeting.

Breaking Down the Information

To solve this problem, let's analyze the data:

1. Price per pair of jeans:

Since 2 pairs cost \$20, then the price per pair is:

$$\text{Price per pair} = \frac{\$20}{2} = \$10$$

2. Total amount spent:

Kerry spent \$40, which is twice the amount for 2 pairs.

3. Number of pairs bought:

To find this, divide the total amount spent by the price per pair:

$$\text{Number of pairs} = \frac{\$40}{\$10} = 4$$

Answer: Kerry bought 4 pairs of jeans.

Step-by-Step Solution Process

Let's formalize the solution process for clarity:

Step 1: Determine the cost per pair of jeans

- Given the package deal: 2 pairs for \$20
- Cost per pair = $\$20 \div 2 = \10

Step 2: Calculate total pairs Kerry purchased

- Total money spent = \$40
- Number of pairs = Total money $\div$ Cost per pair = $\$40 \div \$10 = 4$

Step 3: Conclude the answer

- Kerry bought 4 pairs of jeans.

Alternative Approaches to the Problem

While the straightforward division method works perfectly here, it's helpful to understand alternative approaches that can be applied to similar problems.

Method 1: Using Ratios

- The ratio of cost to pairs is 2 pairs : \$20
- Kerry's expenditure is \$40
- Multiply the ratio to find the number of pairs:

$$\text{Pairs} = 2 \times \frac{\$40}{\$20} = 2 \times 2 = 4$$

Method 2: Using Proportions

- Set up a proportion:

$$\frac{\text{Pairs}}{2} = \frac{\$40}{\$20}$$

- Cross-multiplied:

$$\text{Pairs} \times \$20 = 2 \times \$40$$

- Solving for pairs:

$$\text{Pairs} = \frac{2 \times \$40}{\$20} = 4$$

Expanding the Concept: Budgeting and Cost-Per-Item Calculations

Understanding unit prices and how to apply them is essential in everyday shopping. Here are some key concepts:

Cost per unit

- The price of a single item (here, a pair of jeans).
- Calculation: total price ÷ number of items.

Applying unit prices to shopping

- When a deal offers multiple items at a set price, determine the unit price to compare deals or calculate quantities.
- Example: If jeans were \$30 for 3 pairs, then price per pair would be \$10, same as the previous deal.

Budgeting for multiple items

- To determine how many items you can buy with a fixed budget, divide your total budget by the unit price.
- For Kerry:

$$\frac{\$40}{\$10} = 4 \text{ pairs}$$

Real-World Applications and Practical Tips

Understanding these concepts is not only useful for solving math problems but also for making smart shopping decisions:

- **Comparing deals:** Always calculate the unit price to determine the best value.
- **Budget planning:** Know your total budget and unit prices to plan your purchases.
- **Discount calculations:** When discounts are offered, calculate the new unit price to see if it's a better deal.

Common Variations of Similar Problems

While the current problem is straightforward, here are some variations you might encounter:

1. Different deal structures

- For example, jeans are \$15 for 3 pairs. How many pairs can you buy with \$45?

2. Partial payments or discounts

- If Kerry received a 10% discount, how does that affect the number of pairs she can buy?

3. Bulk purchase offers

- Sometimes, buying in bulk offers a lower per-unit price, affecting calculations.

Practice Problems to Reinforce Learning

To solidify understanding, try solving these problems:

1. Jeans are \$30 for 3 pairs. How much does each pair cost?

2. If you have a budget of \$60 and jeans cost \$15 per pair, how many pairs can you buy?
3. Suppose jeans are on sale at \$25 for 2 pairs. How many pairs can you buy with \$50?
4. Kerry wants to buy 5 pairs of jeans. If each pair costs \$10, what is the total cost?
5. If Kerry only has \$35, and jeans cost \$10 per pair, how many pairs can she afford?

Conclusion

Understanding how to interpret pricing deals and perform basic calculations is essential for making informed shopping choices. In the specific scenario where jeans are priced at \$20 for 2 pairs, and Kerry spends \$40, the calculation reveals she bought 4 pairs of jeans. Recognizing the unit price and applying simple division makes solving such problems straightforward. Whether for academic purposes or everyday shopping, mastering these concepts helps develop practical math skills and promotes smarter purchasing decisions.

Summary

- Jeans cost \$20 for 2 pairs, so each pair costs \$10.
- Kerry spent \$40.
- Dividing the total spent by the cost per pair:
$$\frac{\$40}{\$10} = 4$$
- Kerry bought 4 pairs of jeans.

By understanding and applying basic arithmetic, you can confidently tackle similar problems involving prices, quantities, and budgets in everyday life.

Frequently Asked Questions

If jeans are \$20 for 2 pairs, how much does each pair cost?

Each pair costs \$10 since \$20 for 2 pairs means $\$20 \div 2 = \10 per pair.

Kerry spent \$40 on jeans. How many pairs did she buy?

She bought 4 pairs because $\$40 \div \$10 \text{ per pair} = 4 \text{ pairs}$.

What is the total cost for 3 pairs of jeans at the given rate?

The total cost for 3 pairs is \$30 because each pair costs \$10.

If Kerry bought 2 pairs of jeans, how much did she spend?

She spent \$20 because 2 pairs at \$10 each total \$20.

Can Kerry buy 5 pairs of jeans for \$40?

No, 5 pairs would cost \$50, which exceeds her \$40 budget.

What is the unit price of one pair of jeans in this promotion?

The unit price is \$10 per pair.

If Kerry wanted to buy 6 pairs of jeans, how much would it cost?

It would cost \$60 because 6 pairs at \$10 each equals \$60.

Is the price of \$20 for 2 pairs a discount or regular price?

It appears to be a promotional price, offering a discount on the regular price.

What is the total number of jeans Kerry can buy with \$40 at this rate?

She can buy 4 pairs of jeans with \$40.

If the price per pair is \$10, how much does Kerry spend per pair?

She spends \$10 per pair of jeans.

Additional Resources

Jeans Are \$20 For 2 Pairs. Kerry Spent \$40 On Jeans. How Many Pairs Did She Buy?

Understanding basic algebra and problem-solving strategies can seem daunting at first, but with a clear step-by-step approach, they become manageable tools for everyday reasoning. In this article, we explore a straightforward yet illustrative problem involving pricing, expenditure, and quantity—specifically, how to determine the number of jeans Kerry purchased given her total spending and the store's pricing scheme.

The Context: Pricing and Spending

Imagine a clothing store that offers jeans at a promotional rate: \$20 for 2 pairs. For shoppers, this means that every time they buy two pairs, they pay \$20. This structure implies a per-pair cost that is different from a standard retail price, often encouraging bulk purchases or incentivizing buying in multiples.

Kerry, a shopper at this store, spends exactly \$40 on jeans. The question arises: How many pairs of jeans did she buy? This problem, while seemingly simple, involves understanding the relationship between the total amount spent and the unit cost per pair, especially when the pricing is structured as a package deal.

Breaking Down the Pricing Scheme

Before jumping into calculations, it's essential to understand the pricing scheme:

- Price for 2 pairs of jeans: \$20
- Cost per pair (assuming buying in pairs): \$10

This breakdown suggests that purchasing jeans in multiples of two is cost-effective and straightforward: every two pairs cost \$20, which simplifies the calculation for larger purchases.

However, real-world shopping sometimes involves buying more than just pairs in multiples, so clarity is key.

Step 1: Establish the Basic Relationship

Given the price structure, we can establish a simple relationship:

- For each set of 2 pairs, the cost is \$20.
- If Kerry spends \$40, then the number of such sets she purchased can be calculated by dividing her total expenditure by the cost per set.

Mathematically, this is:

`Number of sets = Total spent / Cost per set`

Applying the numbers:

`Number of sets = \$40 / \$20 = 2`

Thus, Kerry purchased 2 sets of 2 pairs each, totaling 4 pairs.

Step 2: Confirm the Calculation

- Total pairs bought: 2 sets × 2 pairs per set = 4 pairs
- Total spent: 2 sets × \$20 per set = \$40

This matches Kerry's expenditure, confirming that her purchase aligns with the store's pricing scheme.

Alternative Considerations: Could She Have Bought a Different Number?

While the above calculation seems straightforward, it's worth considering whether other purchasing options could result in the same total expenditure, especially if the store offers other pricing schemes or discounts. For example:

- If the store sold jeans individually at a higher per-pair price (say, \$12 per pair), Kerry could have bought 3 pairs for \$36 or 4 pairs for \$48, but these don't match her total of \$40.
- If the store offered discounts for buying more, such as 3 pairs for \$28, the total prices wouldn't align with the total spent either.

Given the initial data, the only logical conclusion is that Kerry bought 4 pairs.

Practical Application and Broader Context

This problem exemplifies a common real-world scenario where understanding prices per unit, package deals, and total expenditure is essential for making cost-effective decisions. For instance:

- Shopping for bulk deals: Recognizing that buying in multiples can save money.
- Budgeting: Calculating how many items can be purchased within a fixed budget.
- Pricing analysis: Comparing different pricing schemes to determine the best value.

In the context of retail, such problems highlight the importance of understanding unit pricing and the implications of promotional deals.

Educational Insights: How to Approach Similar Problems

When faced with similar problems, consider the following approach:

1. Identify the known quantities: Total spent, unit price, package deal details.
2. Translate the problem into a mathematical relationship: Use division to find the number of packages or units.
3. Verify the consistency: Ensure the calculated number aligns with the total expenditure.
4. Explore alternative options: Consider whether other buying patterns could fit the total spent.

This methodical approach enhances problem-solving skills and promotes logical thinking.

Summary and Final Answer

Based on the given information:

- Jeans are priced at \$20 for 2 pairs.
- Kerry spent \$40 on jeans.

Calculating the number of pairs Kerry purchased:

- She bought 2 sets (since $\$40 / \$20 = 2$).
- Each set contains 2 pairs, so:

Number of pairs = 2 sets $\times$ 2 pairs per set = 4 pairs

Final Answer: Kerry bought 4 pairs of jeans.

Closing Thoughts: The Power of Basic Arithmetic

This problem underscores the significance of fundamental arithmetic operations in everyday life. Whether shopping, budgeting, or making strategic decisions, understanding how to interpret unit prices and total costs empowers consumers to make informed choices. Moreover, practicing such problems sharpens analytical skills, fostering a mindset ready to tackle more complex financial and mathematical challenges.

By breaking down the problem into manageable parts and verifying each step, one can confidently arrive at accurate conclusions—an essential skill both in academics and real-world scenarios.

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