

1 - Saying numbers

1 OH, ZERO, NOUGHT

The above are all ways of saying 0 in English.

We say oh	after a decimal point	5.03	five point oh three
We say nought	before the decimal point	0.02	nought point oh two
We say zero	for the number for temperature	0 -5°C	the number zero five degrees below zero

Now say the following:

- The exact figure is 0.002.
- Do we have to hold the conference in Iceland? It's 30 degrees below 0!

2 THE DECIMAL POINT

In English, we use a point (.) and not a comma (,) for decimals. We use comas in figures only when writing thousands.

10,001	is ten thousand and one.
10.001	is ten point oh oh one.

In English all the numbers after a decimal point are read separately:

10.66	ten point six six
0.325	nought point three two five
0.001	nought point oh oh one

You will also hear people say:

0.05	zero point oh five OR oh point oh five
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But if the number after the decimal point is a unit of money, it is read like a normal number:

£12.50	twelve pounds fifty
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Now say the following:

- It's somewhere between 3.488 and 3.491.
- Look, it's less than 0.0001 ! It's not worth worrying about.
- Did you say 0.225 or 0.229?
- No, I mean 15.005 not 15,005