

When there are dollars only, the use of the word 钱 (qián, money) is optional. When cents are added to the amount, however, the word 钱 is omitted.

Examples:

sānshíwǔ yuán (qián) (or sānshíwǔ kuài [qián])

¥ 35.00 三十五元(钱) (or 三十五块钱)

sìshíbā yuán (qián) (or sìshíbā kuài [qián])

¥ 48.00 四十八元(钱) (or 四十八块钱)

wǔ yuán qī jiǎo (qián) (or wǔ kuài qī máo qián)

¥ 5.70 五元七角(钱) (or 五块七毛钱)

(Incorrect: 五元七十分(钱) (or 五块七十分钱)

shí yuán líng liù fēn (qián) (or shí kuài líng liù fēn qián)

¥ 10.06 十元零六分(钱) (or 十块零六分钱)

(Incorrect: 十元六分钱 or 十块六分钱)

Note: In Chinese, for amounts over 10 cents, one must use the word 角 or 毛. For example, ¥3.84 should be read as 三元八角四一分钱 (sān yuán bā jiǎo sì fēn qián) or 三块八毛四一分钱 (sān kuài bā máo sì fēn qián). It is incorrect to say 三元八十四分钱 (sān yuán bāshísì fēn qián) or 三块八十四分钱 (sān kuài bāshísì fēn qián).

In spoken Chinese especially, it is common to omit the word 钱 and sometimes even the words 角 (or 毛) and 分 as well. For ¥7.80, for instance, instead of giving the complete expression of 七块八毛钱 (qī kuài bā máo qián) or 七元八角钱 (qī yuán bā jiǎo qián), one can simply say 七块八毛 (qī kuài bā máo) or 七块八 (qī kuài bā).

▶ VI. The Particle 呢

(See Textbook I, Lesson 2)

Selected examples from the textbook:

(我)妈妈是医生, 爸爸是大学教授。你呢? (Lesson 2)

你爸爸妈妈都是做什么的呢? (Lesson 2)

The particle word 呢 (ne, how about) follows a noun or a pronoun to ask a short, informal question about a person or an object, when the full question is implied by the context.