



NOETIC LEARNING

PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

April 14, 2025

THE PROBLEM:

Three baskets contain a total of 18 apples. The first two baskets contain a total of 11 apples. The second and third baskets contain a total of 9 apples. What is the number of apples in the second basket?



(Source: [Noetic Learning Math Contest](https://www.noetic-learning.com/pow.jsp))

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THE SOLUTION:

“Three baskets contain a total of 18 apples. The first two baskets contain a total of 11 apples.” – The above two statements tell us that there are $18 - 11 = 7$ apples in the 3rd basket. The third statement tells us, “There are 9 apples in the 2nd and 3rd basket.” Therefore, there are $9 - 7 = 2$ apples in the 2nd basket.

THE ANSWER: 2 APPLES