

Balancing Point

The **balancing point** of a data set is the point on a number line where the data distribution is balanced.

- Use the instructions below to find the **balancing point** of the following set of numbers: **2, 3, 5, 6, 9**.

Instructions:

Step 1: Drag a token and place it above each of the numbers in the set (2, 3, 5, 6, 9).

Step 2: Make sure “Find Mean” is selected.

Step 3: Click and drag the yellow triangle (fulcrum) until the green line is balanced (horizontal).

Step 4: Click on “Show Calculation” to have the computer calculate the mean.

What do you notice?

Introduction to Data Science
Mean, Median, and Mode

Step 1: Drag tokens below.

Step 1: Place the tokens

Step 2: Choose a Study:
 Find Mean Find Median Find Mode

Step 3: Move Balance Point:

Step 2: Select Mean

5.5
Not Balanced

Step 3: Drag the fulcrum until the line balances

Array : 2,3,5,6,9
 Show Result

Step 4: Click here Show Calculation

2. Answer the following questions:

a. Use the balancing method to find the mean of each data set below:

i. 2, 2, 8, 9, 9

ii. 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10

iii. 4, 5, 5, 9, 10, 10

b. Suppose a line with several tokens is balanced. What happens when you move one of the tokens to the right? To the left? Explain how this affects the mean.

c. What does the balancing point of a data set represent? Explain.