

# Comparing Decimals

## Comparison symbols:

- > greater than
- < less than
- = equal to
- ≠ not equal to
- ≥ greater than or equal to
- ≤ less than or equal to

1. Write numbers one on top of the other.  
LINE UP PLACE VALUE (line up decimals)

example:

$$1.37 \bigcirc 1.43$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.37 \\ 1.43 \end{array}$$

2. Compare numbers starting with the largest place value (start on the left)

$$\begin{array}{r} \textcircled{1}.37 \\ \textcircled{1}.43 \end{array}$$

The number in the ones place is the same. Move onto the tenths place.

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.\textcircled{3}7 \\ 1.\textcircled{4}3 \end{array}$$

They are different so stop

3. Circle the largest number. Find the correct sign

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.\textcircled{3}7 \\ \textcircled{1}.\textcircled{4}3 \end{array}$$

4 is larger

than 3 so  $\rightarrow 1.37 \textcircled{<} 1.43$