

The “Quick & Dirty” Sig Fig* Chart

* Sig Fig = Significant Figures

Rounding Up or Down: Round up *only* if first extraneous number is 5 or larger

$$18.\underline{3}4 = 18.3$$

$$18.\underline{3}5 = 18.4$$

$$18.\underline{3}6 = 18.4$$

Note: Round up or down only at the *end* of the calculation

Multiplying & Dividing: Use lowest number of sig figs in equation

$$\frac{(4 \text{ sig figs})}{(3 \text{ sig figs})} \frac{0.01208}{0.0236} = \mathbf{0.512} \text{ (3 sig figs)}$$

$$2.6 * 2.6 = \mathbf{6.8}$$

Adding & Subtracting:

of decimal places in *answer* = # of decimal places in value with *fewest places*

$$140.76 \text{ (hundredths)} - 22.1 \text{ (tenths)} = \mathbf{118.7} \text{ (tenths)}$$

$$140 \text{ (tens)} + 22.1 \text{ (tenths)} = \mathbf{160} \text{ (tens, or } 1.6 * 10^2)$$