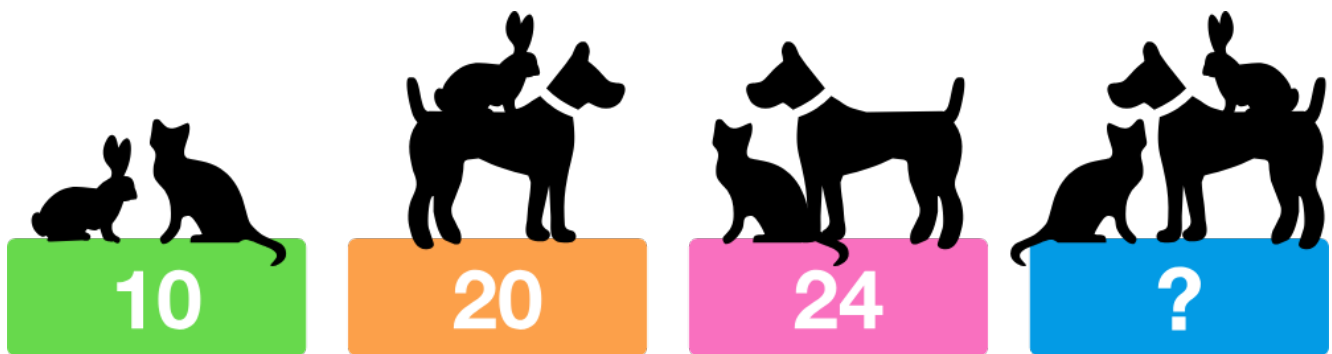


What weight will the fourth scale display?

Credit: [Brilliant.org](https://brilliant.org)

What weight will the fourth scale display? Think carefully! There's a quick and clever shortcut for solving this.



- 25
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Correct! Wrong!

Let R , C , and D be the weights of the rabbit, cat, and dog, respectively. Each picture lends itself to an equation, giving us the following system: $R + C = 10$, $D + R = 20$, $C + D = 24$, $C + D + R = ?$ If we add these equations together, we get $2C + 2R + 2D = 54$. If we divide by 2, we are left with the sum of the weights of each animal: $C + R + D = 27$.