Subtracting Decimals

Mr. Montoya bought 3.5 lb of ground beef. He used 2.38 lb to make hamburgers. How much ground beef does he have left?

**Step 1:** Write the numbers, lining up the decimal points. Include the zeros to show place value.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
3.50 \\
-2.38 \\
\hline
1.12
\end{array}
\]

You can use decimal squares to represent this subtraction problem.

**Step 2:** Subtract the hundredths. Regroup if you need to.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
3.50 \\
-2.38 \\
\hline
2
\end{array}
\]

**Step 3:** Subtract the tenths and the ones. Remember to write the decimal point in your answer.

\[
\begin{array}{c}
3.50 \\
-2.38 \\
\hline
1.12
\end{array}
\]

Mr. Montoya has 1.12 lb of ground beef left over.

Subtract.

1. \[82.7 - 5.59 = 77.11\] 
2. \[43.3 - 12.82 = 30.48\] 
3. \[7.28 - 4.928 = 2.352\]