

Richter Scale (1935)

Measures earthquake **magnitude**---measure of the quake's energy at its source (focus). 10 divisions, regular numbers, 1 is the lowest magnitude, 10 is the highest magnitude.

Highest magnitude	10
	9
	8 7.7 up Great (2)
	7 7.0-7.7 Major (12)
	6 6.0-7.0 Potentially
	5 destructive (108)
	4
	3
	2
Lowest magnitude	1

Scale is geometric not arithmetic. A 2 has 10 times the energy of a 1. A 3 has 10 times the energy of a 2. A 3 has 100 times the energy of 1.

Which would you rather have??

1. \$100,000 a day put into your bank account each day for the month of January. Arithmetic.

Or

2. \$0.01 deposited the first day and then doubled each day thereafter for the month of January. Geometric.

Do the math!

