

ST. JEAN DE BREBEUF MATHEMATICS

NUMBER SENSE

OPERATIONS

WITH FRACTIONS

WRITING FRACTIONS IN LOWEST TERMS

A **fraction** can be *reduced* to lowest terms by dividing the numerator (top number) and denominator (bottom number) by a **common factor**

EXAMPLES

A number that divides *evenly* into both numbers

For each fraction, identify the **common factor** and express each fraction in lowest terms

(a) $\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{2}{2} = 1$ (arrow from 2 to 2)

$\frac{4}{2} = 2$ (arrow from 4 to 2)

$\frac{1}{2}$ (boxed)

Common factor
= 2

(b) $\frac{3}{12}$

$\frac{3}{3} = 1$ (arrow from 3 to 3)

$\frac{12}{3} = 4$ (arrow from 12 to 3)

$\frac{1}{4}$ (boxed)

Common factor
= 3

(c) $\frac{6}{8}$

$\frac{6}{2} = 3$ (arrow from 6 to 2)

$\frac{8}{2} = 4$ (arrow from 8 to 2)

$\frac{3}{4}$ (boxed)

Common factor
= 2

WRITING FRACTIONS IN LOWEST TERMS

A **fraction** can be *reduced* to lowest terms by dividing the numerator (top number) and denominator (bottom number) by a **common factor**

EXAMPLES

For each fraction, identify the **common factor** and express each fraction in lowest terms

(d) $\frac{25}{5}$

$\frac{25}{5} \xrightarrow{25/5} = 5$

$\frac{5}{5} \xrightarrow{5/5} = 1$

$\frac{5}{1} \text{ or } 5$

Common factor
= 5

(e) $\frac{14}{8}$

$\frac{14}{8} \xrightarrow{14/2} = 7$

$\frac{8}{8} \xrightarrow{8/2} = 4$

$\frac{7}{4}$

Common factor
= 2

NUMBER SENSE

OPERATIONS WITH FRACTIONS

OPERATIONS WITH INTEGERS AND FRACTIONS

Evaluate each expression and express each answer in lowest terms. ***
Don't forget to apply the rules for **integer** operations.

(a)
$$\frac{2+3}{13-3}$$

$$= \frac{5}{10}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 5/5 \\ = 1 \\ 10/5 \\ = 2 \end{array}$$

Common factor
= 5

(b)
$$\frac{-2-1}{3+9}$$

$$= \frac{-3}{12}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{4}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -3/3 \\ = -1 \\ 12/3 \\ = 4 \end{array}$$

Common factor
= 3

NUMBER SENSE

OPERATIONS WITH FRACTIONS

OPERATIONS WITH INTEGERS AND FRACTIONS

Evaluate each expression and express each answer in lowest terms. ***
Don't forget to apply the rules for **integer** operations.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c)} \quad & \frac{45 - 15}{-5 - 5} \\ & = \frac{30}{-10} \\ & = -1 \end{aligned}$$

$30 / 10 = 3$
 $-10 / 10 = -1$

$$= \frac{3}{-1} \text{ or } -3$$

Common factor
= 10

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(d)} \quad & \frac{-17 + (-3)}{-8 - (-4)} \\ & = \frac{-17 - 3}{-8 + 4} \\ & = \frac{-20}{-4} \\ & = \frac{-5}{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$-20 / 4 = -5$
 $-4 / 4 = -1$

$$= \frac{5}{1} \text{ or } 5$$

Common factor
= 4

IMPROPER FRACTIONS AND MIXED NUMBERS

To change a **mixed number** to an **improper fraction**, you must

→ Multiply the denominator (bottom number) with the whole number

→ Next, add the numerator

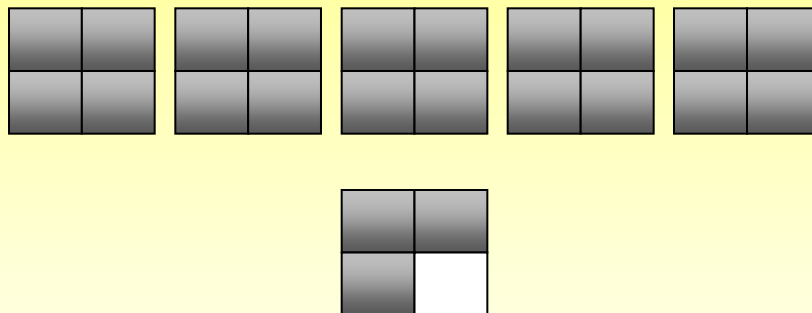
→ Put this all over the denominator

EXAMPLE:

Add $5\frac{3}{4}$
Multiply

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{(4 \times 5) + 3}{4} \\ &= \frac{20 + 3}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{= \frac{23}{4}}$$



IMPROPER FRACTIONS AND MIXED NUMBERS

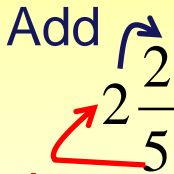
To change a **mixed number** to an **improper fraction**, you must

→ Multiply the denominator (bottom number) with the whole number

→ Next, add the numerator

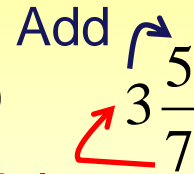
→ Put this all over the denominator

Convert the following **mixed numbers** to **improper fractions**:

(a) 
Add $2\frac{2}{5}$
Multiply

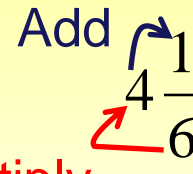
$$= \frac{(5 \times 2) + 2}{5}$$
$$= \frac{10 + 2}{5}$$

$$= \frac{12}{5}$$

(b) 
Add $3\frac{5}{7}$
Multiply

$$= \frac{(7 \times 3) + 5}{7}$$
$$= \frac{21 + 5}{7}$$

$$= \frac{26}{7}$$

(c) 
Add $4\frac{1}{6}$
Multiply

$$= \frac{(6 \times 4) + 1}{6}$$
$$= \frac{24 + 1}{6}$$

$$= \frac{25}{6}$$

Homework:

Worksheets at the end of
package!