Adding and Subtracting Fractions

To add or subtract two fractions with the same denominator, add or subtract the numerators. Write the result in simplest form.

Example 1: Add or subtract.

$$\frac{3}{8} + \frac{4}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$$

$$\frac{5}{6} - \frac{2}{6} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

To add or subtract two fractions with different denominators, write equivalent fractions with a common denominator. Then add or subtract and write the result in simplest form.

Example 2: Add or subtract.

$$\frac{3 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2} + \frac{1 \cdot 2}{3 \cdot 2}$$

$$\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$$

$$\frac{3}{8} - \frac{1 \cdot 2}{4 \cdot 2}$$

$$\frac{3}{8} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{8}$$

Multiplying and Dividing Fractions

To multiply two fractions, multiply the numerators and multiply the denominators. Then write the result in simplest form.

Example 3: Multiply.

$$\frac{3}{8} \cdot \frac{2}{5} = \frac{6}{40} = \frac{3}{20}$$

$$\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{4}{7} = \frac{4}{70} = \frac{2}{35}$$

To divide by a fraction, multiply by its reciprocal and write the product in simplest form.

Example 4: Divide.

$$\frac{\frac{3}{4} \cdot}{\frac{1}{2} \cdot}$$

$$\frac{3}{4} \div \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{1} = \frac{6}{4} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\frac{8}{5} \div \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\frac{8}{5} \cdot \frac{3}{1} = \frac{24}{5}$$

Name

More Fractions

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Notes   Ratios/Proportions