

M9

Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Remember that whenever you add and/or subtract fractions, you need to express all fractions with the same denominator (=common denominator).

To find the common denominator find the LCM of all the original denominators.

Equivalent Fractions = fractions that represent the same value.

Examples of equivalent fractions:

$$\frac{3}{5} = \frac{3 \times 2}{5 \times 2} = \frac{6}{10} = \frac{3 \times 3}{5 \times 3} = \frac{9}{15} = \frac{3 \times 100}{5 \times 100} = \frac{300}{1000}$$

"Treat the numerator and the denominator
The Same"

$$-\frac{4}{7} = -\frac{4 \times 2}{7 \times 2} = -\frac{8}{14} = -\frac{4 \times 3}{7 \times 3} = -\frac{12}{21} = -\frac{4 \times 5}{7 \times 5} = -\frac{20}{35}$$

$$6\frac{1}{2} = \frac{13}{2} = \frac{13 \times 2}{2 \times 2} = \frac{26}{4} = \frac{13 \times 4}{2 \times 4} = \frac{52}{8}$$

Practice:

1	$\frac{4}{5} - \frac{2}{10} + \frac{1}{15} =$ $\frac{4 \times 6}{5 \times 6} - \frac{2 \times 3}{10 \times 3} + \frac{1 \times 2}{15 \times 2}$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $\frac{24}{30} - \frac{6}{30} + \frac{2}{30}$ $\frac{18}{30} + \frac{2}{30} = \frac{20}{30} \xrightarrow{\text{Reduce}} \frac{2}{3}$	LCM (5, 10, 15) 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, <u>30</u> 10, 20, <u>30</u> 15, <u>30</u> LCM = 30
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2	$1\frac{1}{3} - \frac{4}{9} - 5\frac{1}{2} = \frac{4^{x6}}{3^{x6}} - \frac{4^{x2}}{9^{x2}} - \frac{11^{x9}}{2^{x9}}$ $= \frac{24}{18} - \frac{8}{18} - \frac{99}{18}$ $= \frac{-83}{18} = -4\frac{11}{18}$	<p>LCM (3, 9, 2)</p> <p>3, 6, 9, 12, 15, <u>18</u></p> <p>9, <u>18</u></p> <p>2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, <u>18</u></p> <p>LCM = 18</p> <p>$83 \div 18 = 4, 16 \dots$</p> <p>$83 - [4 \times 18] = 11$</p>
3	$-\frac{3^{x3}}{16^{x3}} + \frac{-2^{x2}}{24^{x2}} + \frac{5^{x8}}{6^{x8}} = \frac{-9}{48} + \frac{\overline{(-14)}}{48} + \frac{40}{48}$ $= \frac{-13 + 40}{48}$ $= \frac{27 \div 3}{48 \div 3} = \boxed{\frac{9}{16}}$	<p>LCM (16, 24, 6)</p> <p>16, 32, <u>48</u></p> <p>24, <u>48</u></p> <p>6, 12, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42, <u>48</u></p> <p>LCM = 48</p>
4	$-5\frac{4}{7} - \frac{3}{10} - 2 + \frac{1}{5} = -\frac{39^{x10}}{7^{x10}} - \frac{3^{x7}}{10^{x7}} - \frac{2^{x70}}{1^{x70}} + \frac{1^{x14}}{5^{x14}}$ $= -\frac{390}{70} - \frac{21}{70} - \frac{140}{70} + \frac{14}{70}$ $= -\frac{411}{70} - \frac{140}{70} + \frac{14}{70}$ $= -\frac{551}{70} + \frac{14}{70}$ $= -\frac{537}{70} = -7\frac{47}{70}$	<p>LCM (7, 10, 1, 5)</p> <p>$7 \times 10 = 70$</p> <p>$10 \times 7 = 70$</p> <p>$5 \times 14 = 70$</p> <p>$537 \div 70 = 7.67$</p> <p>$537 - [7 \times 70]$</p> <p>$537 - 490$</p> <p>47</p>