

Lesson 5- Consolidation

Simplifying Fractions

For this lesson, we will move onto consolidating simplifying fractions.

How do I Simplify a Fraction ?

There are two ways to simplify a fraction:

Method 1

Try to **evenly divide** (only whole number answers) both the top and bottom of the fraction by 2, 3, 5, 7, ... etc, until we can't go any further.

Example: Simplify the fraction $\frac{24}{108}$:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & \div 2 & & \div 2 & & \div 3 & \\ & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & & \curvearrowright & \\ \frac{24}{108} & = & \frac{12}{54} & = & \frac{6}{27} & = & \frac{2}{9} \\ & \curvearrowleft & & \curvearrowleft & & \curvearrowleft & \\ & \div 2 & & \div 2 & & \div 3 & \end{array}$$

That is as far as we can go. The fraction simplifies to $\frac{2}{9}$

Method 2

Divide both the top and bottom of the fraction by the **Greatest Common Factor** (you have to work it out first!).

Example: Simplify the fraction $\frac{8}{12}$:

The largest number that goes exactly into both 8 and 12 is 4, so *the Greatest Common Factor is 4.*

Divide both top and bottom by 4:

$$\begin{array}{c} \div 4 \\ \curvearrowright \\ \frac{8}{12} = \frac{2}{3} \\ \curvearrowleft \\ \div 4 \end{array}$$

That is as far as we can go. The fraction simplifies to $\frac{2}{3}$

Simplified Fractions

To simplify a fraction, we find an equivalent fraction which uses the **smallest numbers possible**.

We do this by **dividing**.

$$\begin{array}{l} \frac{24}{40} \div 2 = \frac{12}{20} \\ \text{or } \frac{24}{40} \div 4 = \frac{6}{10} \\ \text{or } \frac{24}{40} \div 8 = \frac{3}{5} \end{array}$$

We need to know our tables for this!
Ask yourself, what can I divide both 24 and 40 by?

8 is the biggest number we can divide both by and $\frac{3}{5}$ uses the smallest possible numbers as we cannot divide them by anything else.

Depending on how confident you feel, choose 1 task from below:

1 star = Developing

2 stars = Expected

3 stars = Greater Depth

1 star

1. $\frac{8}{16} =$



2. $\frac{7}{21} =$



3. $\frac{9}{15} =$

4. $\frac{2}{10} =$

5. $\frac{3}{12} =$

6. $\frac{5}{20} =$

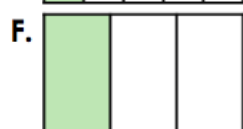
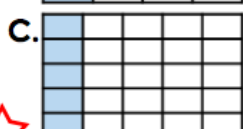
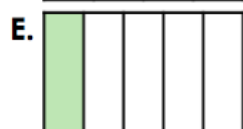
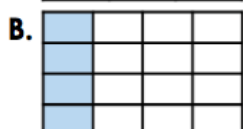
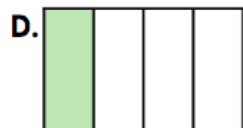
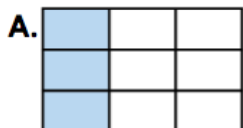
7. $\frac{8}{20} =$

8. $\frac{4}{6} =$

9. $\frac{12}{24} =$

10. $\frac{10}{15} =$

2a. Match each fraction to its simplified version.

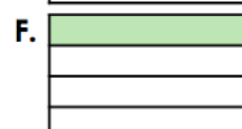
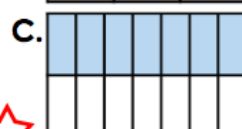
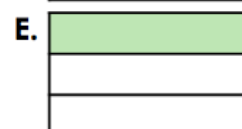
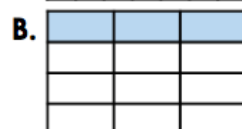
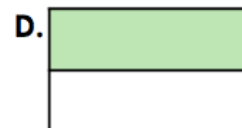
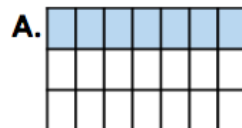


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2b. Match each fraction to its simplified version.



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2 stars

1. $\frac{15}{33} =$

10. $\frac{3}{12}$

2. $\frac{12}{15} =$

11. $\frac{27}{45}$

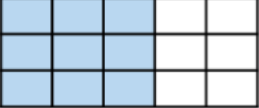
3. $\frac{9}{36} =$

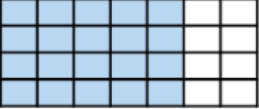
12. $\frac{32}{48}$

4. $\frac{14}{20} =$

13. $\frac{35}{80}$

7a. True or false? The following fractions are reduced to their simplest forms.

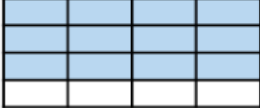
A.  = $\frac{3}{5}$

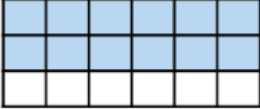
B.  = $\frac{10}{14}$



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7b. True or false? The following fractions are reduced to their simplest forms.

A.  = $\frac{3}{4}$

B.  = $\frac{6}{9}$



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8a. Circle the fractions shown in their simplest form.

$$\frac{3}{18}$$

$$\frac{8}{24}$$

$$\frac{31}{36}$$

$$\frac{6}{24}$$

$$\frac{7}{36}$$



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8b. Circle the fractions shown in their simplest form.

$$\frac{21}{28}$$

$$\frac{11}{14}$$

$$\frac{7}{15}$$

$$\frac{9}{12}$$

$$\frac{13}{20}$$



VF

3 stars

1. $\frac{15}{33} =$

2. $\frac{12}{15} =$

3. $\frac{9}{36} =$

4. $\frac{14}{20} =$

5. $\frac{115}{230} =$

6. $\frac{14}{49} =$

7. $\frac{4}{18} =$

8. $\frac{15}{85} =$

9. $\frac{6}{50} =$

12a. Circle the fractions shown in their simplest form.

$$\frac{9}{24}$$

$$\frac{17}{20}$$

$$\frac{3}{15}$$

$$\frac{5}{17}$$

$$\frac{12}{33}$$



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12b. Circle the fractions shown in their simplest form.

$$\frac{13}{50}$$

$$\frac{32}{40}$$

$$\frac{3}{15}$$

$$\frac{10}{14}$$

$$\frac{19}{75}$$



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11a. True or false? The following fractions are reduced to their simplest forms.

A. 49 tulips out of 63 are red. This is $\frac{7}{8}$ when expressed as a fraction.

B. 33 children out of 75 are left handed. This is $\frac{11}{25}$ when expressed as a fraction.



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11b. True or false? The following fractions are reduced to their simplest forms.

A. 35 dogs out of 100 are brown. This is $\frac{7}{20}$ when expressed as a fraction.

B. Toby scored 32 out of 72 in a test. When expressed as a fraction, this is $\frac{2}{9}$.



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