

ADDING FRACTIONS

How to Add Fractions

Fractions consist of two numbers. The top number is called the numerator. The bottom number is called the denominator.

$$\frac{\text{numerator}}{\text{denominator}}$$

To add two fractions with the same denominator:

- Add the numerators
- Place the sum over the common denominator.

Example:

- A
- P
- T

To add:

- F
- F
- A
- S



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Example: Find the **Sum of $2/9$ and $3/12$**

- **Determine** the **Greatest Common Factor** of 9 and 12 which is 3
- Either **multiply** the denominators and divide by the GCF ($9 \times 12 = 108$, $108/3 = 36$) - OR - **Divide** one of the denominators by the GCF and multiply the answer by the other denominator ($9/3 = 3$, $3 \times 12 = 36$)
- **Rename** the fractions to use the Least Common Denominator ($2/9 = 8/36$, $3/12 = 9/36$)
- The **result** is $8/36 + 9/36$
- **Add** the numerators and put the sum over the LCD = $17/36$
- **Simplify** the fraction if possible. In this case it is not possible.

Try This!

Add the following fractions:

$$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{4} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\frac{11}{20} + \frac{4}{20} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{10} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$



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