

SIMPLIFYING FRACTIONS

How to simplify fractions to lowest terms

$$\frac{15}{25}$$

Find the LARGEST number that the NUMERATOR and DENOMINATOR can BOTH be divided by

$$\frac{15 \div 5}{25 \div 5} \rightarrow$$

$$\frac{3}{5}$$

3

This is the LOWEST term because no other number can be divided evenly into the numerator (3) AND the denominator (5)

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The remainder 3 will become part of a fraction. The remainder 3 becomes the numerator and the denominator stays as 7.

$$\frac{17}{7} \rightarrow \text{converted to a mixed number} \rightarrow 2 \frac{3}{7}$$



Another example:

$$\begin{array}{r} 13 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\div 4$$

Divide the NUMERATOR by the DENOMINATOR

$$13 \div 4 = 3 \text{ with a remainder of } 1$$

3 is a whole number.

The remainder 1 will become part of a fraction. The remainder 1 becomes the numerator and the denominator stays as 4.

$$\begin{array}{r} 13 \\ 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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Like This:

$$\begin{array}{r} 4 \\ \times 3 \\ \hline \end{array} + \begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \hline \end{array} 3 \times 4 = 12 + 2 = 14 \rightarrow \begin{array}{r} 14 \\ \hline 3 \end{array}$$