

Fraction Review Page

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In brief Common denominators!

In detail:

To list fractions from smallest to largest:

- 1) Find the LCM of the denominators.
- 2) Change each fraction so that it has the LCM as its denominator.
- 3) The numerators of the changed fractions can be compared to show you the order required.
- 4) List the original fractions in the order you found.

To add or subtract fractions of any type:

- 1.) Find the LCM of the denominators.
- 2.) Change each fraction so that it has the LCM as its denominator.
- 3.) Add or subtract the numerators. The denominator tells what kind of fraction is being worked with and does not change during this step.
- 4.) Reduce, if possible

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In brief: Top/bottom cancel!

In detail:

To multiply or divide fractions:

- 1) Make sure each number is in fraction form.
- 2) If a division problem, change to a multiplication problem by switching the divisor (the second fraction) with its reciprocal.
- 3) Cancel any factor that are identical in bot a numerator and a denominator.
- 4) Multiply the numerators together to get the new numerator. Do the same for the denominator.
- 5) Reduce, if possible.

What to do about mixed numbers:

Change them to improper fractions and use the above rules. You never learned separate rules for dealing with mixed numbers.

To change a mixed number to an improper fraction:

- 1) Multiply the whole number by the denominator.
- 2) Add the numerator to your answer.
- 3) Place this sum as the new numerator over your original denominator.

To change an improper fraction to a mixed number, divide the numerator by the denominator. The fractional part is the remainder over the original divisor.