

Adding and Subtracting Fractions

- Find the (lowest) common denominator.

$$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{\quad}{12} + \frac{\quad}{12}$$

- Find the equivalent fractions.

$$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{4} = \frac{8}{12} + \frac{9}{12}$$

- Add the numerators but not the denominators.

$$\frac{8}{12} + \frac{9}{12} = \frac{17}{12}$$

- If you haven't used the lowest common denominator you may have to simplify.
- Change your answer to a mixed fraction if asked to.

$$\frac{17}{12} \rightarrow 1\frac{5}{12}$$

Multiplying Fractions

- Multiply the numerators together, multiply the denominators together.

$$\frac{4}{7} \times \frac{5}{12} = \frac{20}{84}$$

- Simplify the answer if possible.

$$\frac{20}{84} = \frac{5}{21}$$

Dividing Fractions

- Find the reciprocal of the second number (or fraction) then multiply.

$$\frac{3}{10} \div 11 = \frac{3}{10} \times \frac{1}{11} = \frac{3}{110}$$

NOTE: See the example for multiplying and dividing fractions to learn more.