

Simplifying Fractions

Reduce them
you will.



GCF: Greatest Common Factor- the largest factor the numerator and denominator have in common.

$$\begin{array}{l|l} 3 & 1, 3 \\ \hline 12 & 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12 \end{array}$$

Numerator:

The top number in a fraction- represents how many parts of the whole are being considered.

$$\begin{array}{r} \rightarrow 3 \\ \hline 5 \\ \leftarrow \end{array}$$

Denominator:

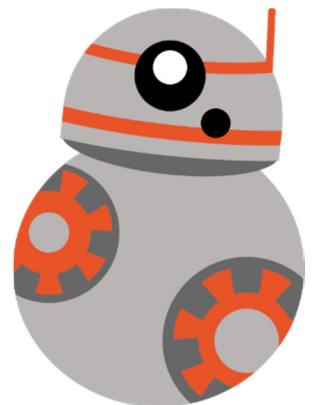
The bottom number in a fraction- represents the total number of parts created from the whole.

Simplify: to reduce a fraction to a simpler, easier to use form.

$$\frac{4}{8} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$$

How to simplify: (GCF) (simplified fraction)

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \div 2 = 3 \\ \hline 14 \div 2 = 7 \end{array}$$



- 1) List factors for both numerator & denominator
- 2) Find largest one in common (GCF)
- 3) Divide out this GCF from numerator & denominator