

# 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:**

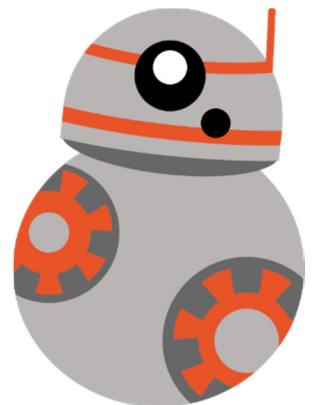
The bottom number in a fraction- represents the total number of parts created from the whole.

**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)

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



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