

Y5 Add Subtract Fractions

KS2 Y5 Maths · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

$$\frac{3}{5} + \frac{4}{5}$$

Step 1 · Same denominator: add the numerators

$$3 + 4 = 7 \text{ fifths}$$

Step 2 · $\frac{7}{5}$ is more than 1 whole

$$5 \text{ fifths} = 1 \text{ whole, } 2 \text{ fifths left}$$

Answer: $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{4}{5} = \frac{7}{5} = 1 \frac{2}{5}$

Check: The denominator stays 5; we are counting fifths ✓

2. Now try one with the steps

$$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{8}$$

Step 1 · 8 is a multiple of 4

$$\text{Step 2} \cdot \frac{2}{8} + \frac{3}{8}$$

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. $\frac{2}{7} + \frac{3}{7}$

2. $\frac{8}{9} - \frac{5}{9}$

3. $\frac{5}{6} + \frac{4}{6}$, mixed number

4. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$

5. $\frac{3}{10} + \frac{2}{5}$

6. $\frac{7}{8} - \frac{1}{4}$

7. $\frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{6}$

8. $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{12}$

9. $1\frac{3}{5} + 2\frac{1}{5}$

10. $3\frac{7}{10} - 1\frac{1}{2}$

11. $\frac{4}{5} + \frac{7}{10}$, mixed number

12. Freya drank $\frac{3}{8}$ of a litre of juice in the morning and $\frac{1}{4}$ of a litre at lunch. How much did she drink altogether?

13. A cake was cut into 12 equal slices. Kofi ate $\frac{1}{4}$ of the cake and his sister ate $\frac{1}{6}$. What fraction of the cake is left?

14. Find the missing fraction: $\frac{2}{3} + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = 1\frac{1}{6}$

4. Before you hand it in

$\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{8} = \frac{4}{12}$.

The denominator names the size of the pieces. Make them the same first, then add only the numerators: $\frac{2}{8} + \frac{3}{8} = \frac{5}{8}$.

Leaving $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{4}{5}$ as $\frac{7}{10}$.

Fifths plus fifths are still fifths: $\frac{7}{5}$, which is $1\frac{2}{5}$.

Changing $\frac{1}{3}$ to sixths as $\frac{1}{6}$.

Multiply the numerator too: $\frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{6}$.

For $2\frac{1}{4} + 1\frac{5}{8}$, writing $3\frac{6}{12}$.

$\frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{8}$, so the fractions make $\frac{7}{8}$ and the answer is $3\frac{7}{8}$.