

# Y6 Add Subtract Fractions

KS2 Y6 Maths · Follows the national curriculum

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. Worked example

$$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$$

Step 1 · Common denominator (LCM of 3 and 4)

12

Step 2 ·  $\frac{2}{3} = \frac{8}{12}$  and  $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{12}$

$$\frac{8}{12} + \frac{3}{12}$$

Step 3 · Add the numerators

$\frac{11}{12}$

**Answer:  $\frac{11}{12}$**

Check:  $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$  is a little less than 1 ✓

## 2. Now try one with the steps

$$\frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{8}$$

Step 1 · LCM of 6 and 8

Step 2 ·  $\frac{5}{6} = \frac{20}{24}$  and  $\frac{3}{8} = \frac{9}{24}$

Step 3 · Subtract the numerators

**Answer:**

## 3. Practice

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

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

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2.  $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{6}$

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3.  $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{4}$

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4.  $\frac{7}{8} - \frac{2}{3}$

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5.  $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{6}$ . Give the answer mixed number.

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6.  $1\frac{1}{3} + 2\frac{1}{4}$

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7.  $4\frac{5}{6} - 2\frac{1}{4}$

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8.  $2\frac{3}{4} + 1\frac{2}{3}$

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9.  $5\frac{1}{6} - 2\frac{3}{4}$

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10.  $3 - 1\frac{3}{8}$

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11.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$

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12. A recipe uses  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups of flour and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of a cup of sugar. How many cups is that altogether?

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13. A ribbon is  $4\frac{1}{5}$  m long.  $1\frac{3}{4}$  m is cut off. How much is left?

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14.  $\frac{2}{3} + ? = 1\frac{1}{6}$

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15. Jo walked  $2\frac{3}{10}$  km before lunch and  $1\frac{4}{5}$  km after lunch. How much further did she walk before lunch?

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#### 4. Before you hand it in

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**$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{5}$ .**

Fractions must have the same denominator before adding.  $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$ .

**Changing  $\frac{2}{3}$  to  $\frac{8}{12}$  but  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{12}$ .**

Whatever you multiply the denominator by, multiply the numerator by the same:  $\frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{12}$ .

**$3\frac{1}{4} - 1\frac{2}{3} = 2$  and  $\frac{1}{4} - \frac{2}{3}$  ... 'can't be done'.**

Exchange one whole, or change both to improper fractions:  $\frac{39}{12} - \frac{20}{12} = \frac{19}{12} = 1\frac{7}{12}$ .