034 Math Practice

Adding Fractions with Unlike Denominators

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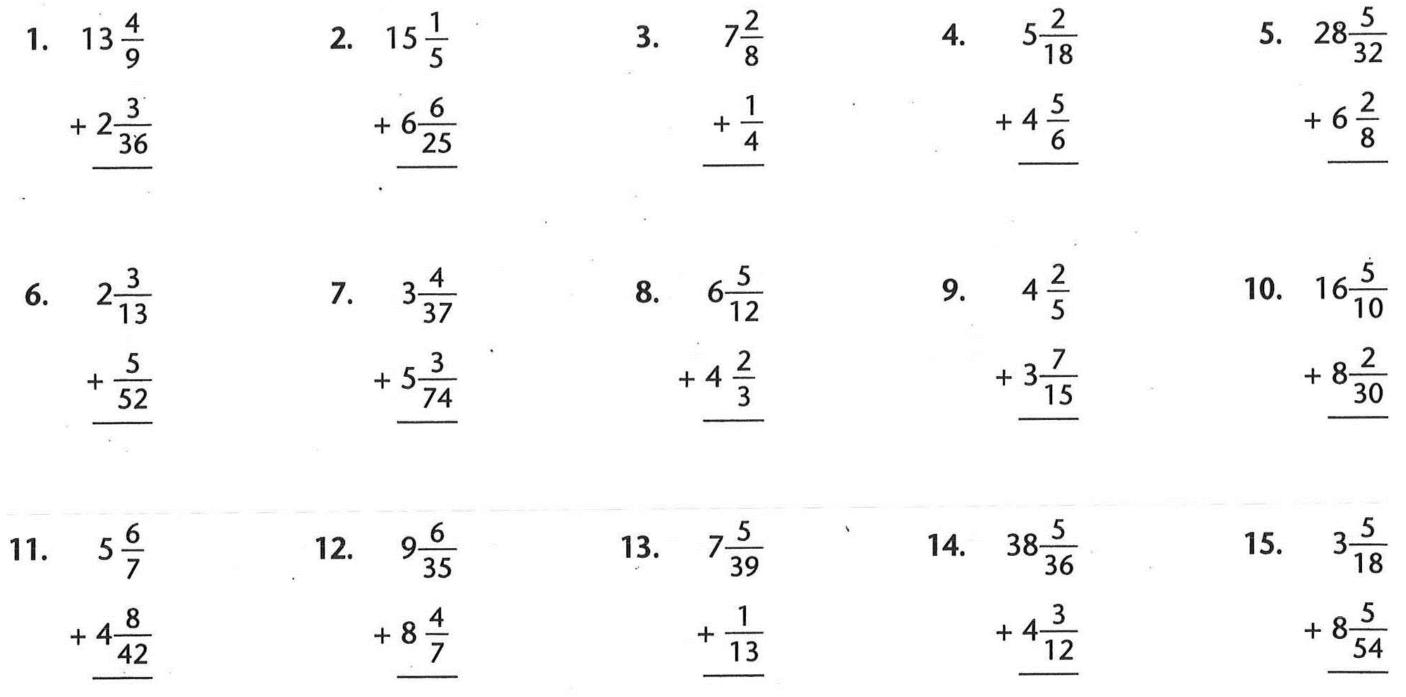
Adding fractions requires like, or common, denominators. If the denominators are not alike, then a common denominator must be found. Always consider the larger of the given denominators as a possible common denominator.

- Try dividing the smaller denominator into the larger denominator. Hint: If the remainder is zero, then the larger denominator can be used as a common denominator.
- Add $2\frac{2}{7}$ and $5\frac{3}{28}$. Example:
- Find the least common multiple for the denominators Step 1: 7 and 28. 28 ÷ 7 = 4. The remainder is zero. Use 28 as the common denominator.
- Raise the smaller fraction to higher terms with 28 as Step 2: the new denominator.
- Proceed with the addition. Add the numerators and the Step 3: whole number parts.

Find the least common denominator and add. Express your answers in lowest terms.

 $2\frac{2}{7}$ + $5\frac{3}{28}$ $\frac{2}{7} \times \frac{4}{4} = \frac{8}{28}$ $2\frac{2}{7} = 2\frac{8}{28}$ $+5\frac{3}{28} = 5\frac{3}{28}$

 $7\frac{11}{28}$



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035 Math Practice Using Least Common Multiples

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Often, the fractions that you need to add have unlike denominators. You may not be able to find a common denominator in the problem. Then you need to use the least common multiple as the common denominator.

Example: Add
$$5\frac{3}{4}$$
 and $2\frac{1}{6}$.

Step 1: Find the least common multiple of 4 and 6.

The least common multiple is 12. (6, **12**, 18, 24, Use 12 as the least common denominator.

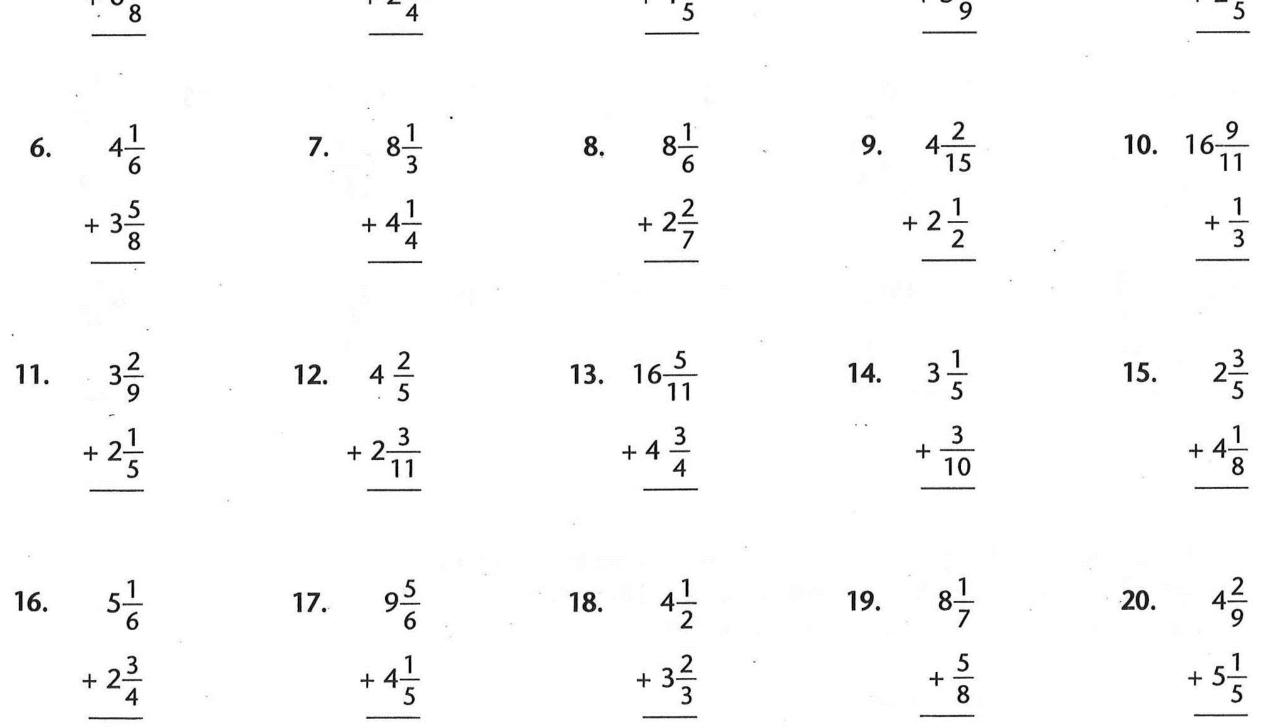
Step 2: Raise the fractions to higher terms with 12 as the new denominator.

The multiples of 4 are (4, 8, **12**, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32.....) The multiples of 6 are (6, **12**, 18, 24, 30, 36.....)

$$5\frac{3}{4} = 5\frac{9}{12} + 2\frac{1}{6} = 2\frac{2}{12} + 7\frac{11}{12}$$

Add these fractions. Express your answers in lowest terms.

1. $5\frac{2}{7}$ + $6\frac{4}{8}$ 2. $6\frac{5}{6}$ 3. $39\frac{1}{2}$ 4. $5\frac{2}{7}$ 5. $6\frac{4}{8}$ 4. $5\frac{2}{7}$ 4. $5\frac{2}{7}$ 5. $6\frac{4}{8}$ 4. $5\frac{2}{7}$ 5. $6\frac{4}{8}$ 5. $6\frac{6}{8}$ 5. $6\frac{6}{8}$ 5. $6\frac{6}{8}$ 5. $6\frac{6}{8}$ 5. $6\frac{6}{8}$ 5



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