

## SIMPLIFYING FRACTIONS

**Simplifying fractions** is the **process of reducing fractions** and putting them into their lowest terms. Fractions may need to be simplified after a mathematical operation, such as multiplication, which produces a solution that is very large.

### How to use simplifying fractions:

- If a fraction is very large, look for a **common factor** that both the numerator and denominator have in common.
- Then divide both the numerator and denominator by that factor.
- Look at the resulting fraction again and see if it can be reduced further.
- A common factor of both the numerator and denominator is even. If they have a common factor of two.



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**Example:**

$120/135 \div \text{by } 5 = 24/27$  not lowest terms,  $\div 3 = 8/9$ , lowest term

### Try this!

**Simplify the following fractions:**

$$52/128$$

$$76/900$$

$$64/128$$

$$16/48$$