

Algebraic Fractions - Lesson 1

Equivalence and Basic Simplification of Algebraic Fractions

LI

- Find equivalent fractions for fractions which have simple expressions in the numerator and/or denominator.
- Simplify fractions which have simple expressions in the numerator and/or denominator.

SC

- Rules of equivalence and simplification for fractions with numbers.

An algebraic fraction is a fraction with at least the numerator or denominator being an algebraic expression

To simplify any (numerical or algebraic) fraction, divide top and bottom by the same quantity

Equivalent fractions are fractions that are the same

To find an equivalent fraction to a given fraction, multiply or divide top and bottom of the given fraction by the same quantity

If the given fraction is divided by the same quantity, the given fraction is said to be simplified; it then has smaller numbers and/or smaller powers of variables than the given fraction

A fraction is said to be fully simplified if it cannot be simplified further

Note : multiplying or dividing by 1 will not give an equivalent fraction that looks different to the given fraction

Example 1

Find 3 equivalent fractions to $\frac{x}{7}$.

$$\frac{x}{7} \underset{\text{x } 3}{=} \boxed{\frac{3x}{21}}$$

$$\frac{x}{7} \underset{\text{x } p}{=} \boxed{\frac{xp}{7p}}$$

$$\frac{x}{7} \underset{\text{x } x}{=} \boxed{\frac{x^2}{7x}}$$

Example 2

Simplify (fully) : $\frac{12 p}{18}$

$$\frac{12 p}{18} \quad \begin{matrix} \div 6 \\ \div 6 \end{matrix} = \boxed{\frac{2 p}{3}}$$

Example 3

Simplify (fully) : $\frac{3}{12 x}$

$$\frac{3}{12 x} \quad \begin{matrix} \div 3 \\ \div 3 \end{matrix} = \boxed{\frac{1}{4 x}}$$

Example 4

Simplify (fully) : $\frac{8 b}{24 b}$

$$\frac{8 b}{24 b} \quad \begin{matrix} \div 8 b \\ \div 8 b \end{matrix} = \boxed{\frac{1}{3}}$$

Example 5

$$\frac{x}{7} = \frac{}{14}$$

$$\frac{x}{7} \quad \begin{matrix} \times 2 \\ \times 2 \end{matrix} = \boxed{\frac{2x}{14}}$$

Example 6

$$\frac{60 m}{8 m} = \frac{}{15}$$

$$\frac{60 m}{8 m} \quad \begin{matrix} \div 4 m \\ \div 4 m \end{matrix} = \boxed{\frac{15}{2}}$$

1. $\frac{x}{4} = \frac{?}{8}$

2. $\frac{x}{5} = \frac{?}{15}$

3. $\frac{a}{3} = \frac{?}{3b}$

4. $\frac{c}{2} = \frac{?}{2d}$

5. $\frac{m}{5} = \frac{?}{5m}$

6. $\frac{n}{8} = \frac{?}{8n}$

7. $\frac{5}{p} = \frac{20}{?}$

8. $\frac{6}{q} = \frac{18}{?}$

9. $\frac{2}{u} = \frac{2v}{?}$

10. $\frac{4}{x} = \frac{4y}{?}$

11. $\frac{3}{z} = \frac{3z}{?}$

12. $\frac{7}{t} = \frac{7t}{?}$

13. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{?}{3y}$

14. $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{?}{5b}$

15. $\frac{p}{q} = \frac{?}{qr}$

16. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{?}{yz}$

17. $\frac{r}{s} = \frac{?}{s^2}$

18. $\frac{c}{d} = \frac{?}{d^2}$

19. $\frac{u}{v} = \frac{?}{uv}$

20. $\frac{m}{n} = \frac{?}{mn}$

21. $\frac{p}{q} = \frac{5p}{?}$

22. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{9x}{?}$

23. $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{ac}{?}$

24. $\frac{r}{s} = \frac{rt}{?}$

25. $\frac{p}{q} = \frac{pq}{?}$

26. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{xy}{?}$

27. $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{a^2}{?}$

28. $\frac{d}{e} = \frac{d^2}{?}$

29. $\frac{6x}{8} = \frac{?}{4}$

30. $\frac{10y}{12} = \frac{?}{6}$

31. $\frac{2z}{10} = \frac{?}{5}$

32. $\frac{8a}{6} = \frac{?}{3}$

33. $\frac{6b}{4} = \frac{?}{2}$

34. $\frac{6t}{15} = \frac{?}{5}$

35. $\frac{9c}{12} = \frac{?}{4}$

36. $\frac{3d}{9} = \frac{?}{3}$

37. $\frac{15e}{12} = \frac{?}{4}$

38. $\frac{10}{16m} = \frac{?}{5}$

39. $\frac{8}{10n} = \frac{?}{4}$

40. $\frac{14}{8p} = \frac{?}{7}$

41. $\frac{4}{2q} = \frac{?}{2}$

42. $\frac{6}{9r} = \frac{?}{2}$

43. $\frac{12}{15s} = \frac{?}{4}$

44. $\frac{8}{20u} = \frac{?}{2}$

45. $\frac{4}{16v} = \frac{?}{1}$

46. $\frac{4x}{6x} = \frac{?}{3}$

47. $\frac{6y}{10y} = \frac{?}{5}$

48. $\frac{12z}{10z} = \frac{?}{5}$

49. $\frac{2t}{12t} = \frac{?}{6}$

50. $\frac{9u}{15u} = \frac{?}{5}$

51. $\frac{9v}{6v} = \frac{?}{2}$

52. $\frac{12m}{4m} = ?$

53. $\frac{16n}{20n} = \frac{?}{5}$

54. $\frac{4a}{10a} = \frac{?}{2}$

55. $\frac{2b}{8b} = \frac{?}{1}$

56. $\frac{10c}{6c} = \frac{?}{5}$

57. $\frac{10d}{15d} = \frac{?}{2}$

58. $\frac{12e}{16e} = \frac{?}{3}$

59. $\frac{20m}{8m} = \frac{?}{5}$

60. $\frac{3n}{12n} = \frac{?}{1}$

**Q 1 - 28
(equivalents)**

**Q 29 - 60
(simplifying)**

1. $\frac{x}{4} = \frac{2x}{8}$	13. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{3x}{3y}$	25. $\frac{p}{q} = \frac{pq}{q^2}$	37. $\frac{15e}{12} = \frac{5e}{4}$	49. $\frac{2t}{12t} = \frac{1}{6}$
2. $\frac{x}{5} = \frac{3x}{15}$	14. $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{5a}{5b}$	26. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{xy}{y^2}$	38. $\frac{10}{16m} = \frac{5}{8m}$	50. $\frac{9u}{15u} = \frac{3}{5}$
3. $\frac{a}{3} = \frac{ab}{3b}$	15. $\frac{p}{q} = \frac{pr}{qr}$	27. $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{a^2}{ab}$	39. $\frac{8}{10n} = \frac{4}{5n}$	51. $\frac{9v}{6v} = \frac{3}{2}$
4. $\frac{c}{2} = \frac{cd}{2d}$	16. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{xz}{yz}$	28. $\frac{d}{e} = \frac{d^2}{de}$	40. $\frac{14}{8p} = \frac{7}{4p}$	52. $\frac{12m}{4m} = 3$
5. $\frac{m}{5} = \frac{m^2}{5m}$	17. $\frac{r}{s} = \frac{rs}{s^2}$	29. $\frac{6x}{8} = \frac{3x}{4}$	41. $\frac{4}{2q} = \frac{2}{q}$	53. $\frac{16n}{20n} = \frac{4}{5}$
6. $\frac{n}{8} = \frac{n^2}{8n}$	18. $\frac{c}{d} = \frac{cd}{d^2}$	30. $\frac{10y}{12} = \frac{5y}{6}$	42. $\frac{6}{9r} = \frac{2}{3r}$	54. $\frac{4a}{10a} = \frac{2}{5}$
7. $\frac{5}{p} = \frac{20}{4p}$	19. $\frac{u}{v} = \frac{u^2}{uv}$	31. $\frac{2z}{10} = \frac{z}{5}$	43. $\frac{12}{15s} = \frac{4}{5s}$	55. $\frac{2b}{8b} = \frac{1}{4}$
8. $\frac{6}{q} = \frac{18}{3q}$	20. $\frac{m}{n} = \frac{m^2}{mn}$	32. $\frac{8a}{6} = \frac{4a}{3}$	44. $\frac{8}{20u} = \frac{2}{5u}$	56. $\frac{10c}{6c} = \frac{5}{3}$
9. $\frac{2}{u} = \frac{2v}{uv}$	21. $\frac{p}{q} = \frac{5p}{5q}$	33. $\frac{6b}{4} = \frac{3b}{2}$	45. $\frac{4}{16v} = \frac{1}{4v}$	57. $\frac{10d}{15d} = \frac{2}{3}$
10. $\frac{4}{x} = \frac{4y}{xy}$	22. $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{9x}{9y}$	34. $\frac{6t}{15} = \frac{2t}{5}$	46. $\frac{4x}{6x} = \frac{2}{3}$	58. $\frac{12e}{16e} = \frac{3}{4}$
11. $\frac{3}{z} = \frac{3z}{z^2}$	23. $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{ac}{bc}$	35. $\frac{9c}{12} = \frac{3c}{4}$	47. $\frac{6y}{10y} = \frac{3}{5}$	59. $\frac{20m}{8m} = \frac{5}{2}$
12. $\frac{7}{t} = \frac{7t}{t^2}$	24. $\frac{r}{s} = \frac{rt}{st}$	36. $\frac{3d}{9} = \frac{d}{3}$	48. $\frac{12z}{10z} = \frac{6}{5}$	60. $\frac{3n}{12n} = \frac{1}{4}$