Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Like Denominators

Apply the skill to decisions and designs

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Score** _____ / 8

QUICK REVIEW

With like denominators, add or subtract only the numerators. $\frac{3}{8}+\frac{2}{8}=\frac{5}{8}$ and $\frac{7}{8}-\frac{3}{8}=\frac{4}{8}=\frac{1}{2}$. The eighth-sized pieces do not change.

Worked example

Find $\frac{2}{12}+\frac{3}{12}$.

1. The pieces are all $\frac{1}{12}$.

2. Combine the counts: $2+3=5$, so $\frac{2}{12}+\frac{3}{12}=\frac{5}{12}$.

3. Rename if possible: $\frac{5}{12}=\frac{5}{12}$.

Answer: $\frac{5}{12}$.

Practice Problems

Show your thinking.

1. A bottle gets $\frac{3}{10}$ L, then $\frac{4}{10}$ L. Find the total.

2. A strip is $\frac{7}{8}$ m; $\frac{2}{8}$ m is cut off. Find what remains.

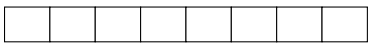
3. A walk covers $\frac{5}{6}$ km and then $\frac{4}{6}$ km. Find the distance.

4. A tank holds $\frac{9}{12}$ L. Use $\frac{5}{12}$ L. Find the amount left.

5. A label says $\frac{5}{6}$ L minus $\frac{2}{6}$ L is $\frac{3}{12}$ L. Repair it.

6. A 1-m strip must contain a $\frac{3}{10}$-m red part and a blue part. Find the blue length.

7. Draw an eighths-bar model for $\frac{4}{8}$ m plus $\frac{3}{8}$ m. Find the total.



8. Will $\frac{4}{9}$ L plus $\frac{3}{9}$ L fill a 1-L bottle? How much more is needed?

Answer Key

1. $\frac{7}{10}$ L.
2. $\frac{5}{8}$ m.
3. $\frac{3}{2}$ km.
4. $\frac{1}{3}$ L.
5. $\frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$ L.
6. $\frac{7}{10}$ m.
7. $\frac{7}{8}$ m.
8. No; $\frac{2}{9}$ L more.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. The pieces are all $\frac{1}{10}$ L.
2. Combine the counts: $3 + 4 = 7$, so $\frac{3}{10} + \frac{4}{10} = \frac{7}{10}$.
3. Rename if possible: $\frac{7}{10} = \frac{7}{10}$.

Problem 2

1. The pieces are all $\frac{1}{8}$ m.
2. Combine the counts: $7 - 2 = 5$, so $\frac{7}{8} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{5}{8}$.
3. Rename if possible: $\frac{5}{8} = \frac{5}{8}$.

Problem 3

1. The pieces are all $\frac{1}{6}$ km.
2. Combine the counts: $5 + 4 = 9$, so $\frac{5}{6} + \frac{4}{6} = \frac{9}{6}$.
3. Rename if possible: $\frac{9}{6} = 1\frac{1}{2}$.

Problem 4

1. The pieces are all $\frac{1}{12}$ L.
2. Combine the counts: $9 - 5 = 4$, so $\frac{9}{12} - \frac{5}{12} = \frac{4}{12}$.
3. Rename if possible: $\frac{4}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$.

Problem 5

1. The amount removed is 2 sixths from 5 sixths.
2. $5 - 2 = 3$ sixths remain.
3. $\frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$ L; $\frac{3}{12}$ L would be only a quarter liter.

Problem 6

1. One meter is $\frac{10}{10}$ m.
2. $\frac{10}{10} - \frac{3}{10} = \frac{7}{10}$ m.
3. $\frac{3}{10} + \frac{7}{10} = 1$ m checks the design.

Problem 7

1. The pieces are all $\frac{1}{8}$ m.
2. Combine the counts: $4 + 3 = 7$, so $\frac{4}{8} + \frac{3}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$.
3. Rename if possible: $\frac{7}{8} = \frac{7}{8}$.

Problem 8

1. The current total is $\frac{4}{9} + \frac{3}{9} = \frac{7}{9}$ L.
2. A full bottle holds $\frac{9}{9}$ L.
3. $\frac{9}{9} - \frac{7}{9} = \frac{2}{9}$ L is missing.

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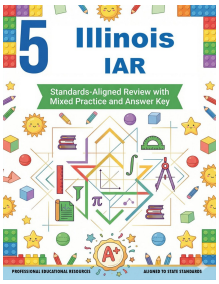

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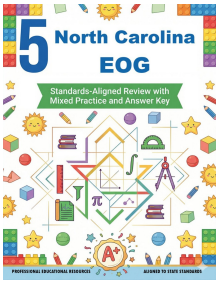

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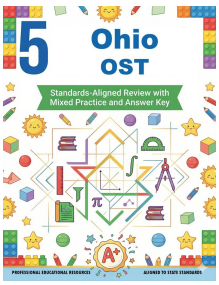

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