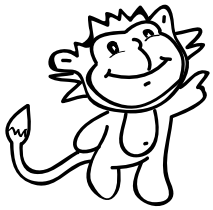
Answers

Adding and Subtracting Mixed Numbers

Adding and subtracting mixed fractions with unlike denominators may seem impossible, but if you follow these three simple steps, you will be a pro!



-First, convert your mixed fraction to an improper fraction.

-Next, find a common denominator and add or subtract the fractions.

-Last, convert the answer back to a mixed fraction.

Quick Reminder: An improper fraction has a numerator that is greater than or equal to the denominator.

Example: $3\frac{1}{4} + 2\frac{1}{2} = ?$

Convert to an improper fraction. $3\frac{1}{4} = \frac{13}{4}$ $2\frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{2}$

Find a common denominator. $\frac{13}{4}$ $\frac{10}{4}$

Now, add them. $\frac{13}{4} + \frac{10}{4} = \frac{23}{4}$

Convert back to a mixed fraction. $5\frac{3}{4}$

For each problem below, follow the steps used in the example to find your solution. Be sure to show all your work in the space provided.

1) $3\frac{5}{8} + 1\frac{3}{4} = ?$

$\frac{29}{8} + \frac{7}{4}$

$\frac{29}{8} + \frac{14}{8} = \frac{43}{8} = 5\frac{3}{8}$

2) $6\frac{5}{6} - 3\frac{1}{4} = ?$

$\frac{41}{6} - \frac{13}{4}$

$\frac{82}{12} - \frac{39}{12} = \frac{43}{12} = 3\frac{7}{12}$

3) $4\frac{1}{3} + 3\frac{2}{5} = ?$

$\frac{13}{3} + \frac{17}{5}$

$\frac{65}{15} + \frac{51}{15} = \frac{116}{15} = 7\frac{11}{15}$

4) $7\frac{7}{8} - 6\frac{1}{4} = ?$

$\frac{63}{8} - \frac{25}{4}$

$\frac{63}{8} - \frac{50}{8} = \frac{13}{8} = 1\frac{5}{8}$

5) $3\frac{2}{3} + 2\frac{5}{7} = ?$

$\frac{11}{3} + \frac{19}{7}$

$\frac{77}{21} + \frac{57}{21} = \frac{134}{21} = 6\frac{8}{21}$

6) $5\frac{4}{5} - 3\frac{1}{3} = ?$

$\frac{29}{5} - \frac{10}{3}$

$\frac{87}{15} - \frac{50}{15} = \frac{37}{15} = 2\frac{7}{15}$

7) $4\frac{1}{4} + 1\frac{1}{3} = ?$

$\frac{17}{4} + \frac{4}{3}$

$\frac{51}{12} + \frac{16}{12} = \frac{67}{12} = 5\frac{7}{12}$

8) $11\frac{5}{6} - 5\frac{1}{2} = ?$

$\frac{71}{6} - \frac{11}{2}$

$\frac{71}{6} - \frac{33}{6} = \frac{38}{6} = 6\frac{2}{6} = 6\frac{1}{3}$