Greatest Common Factor Part 1

The greatest common factor (GCF) is the largest factor that divides two numbers.

EXAMPLE: Find the greatest common factor of 6 and 10.

Step 1	Step 2	ANSWER
Find the prime factors of each number.	Find the common prime factors that 6 and 10 have.	The great common factor of 6 and 10 is 2
6 = 2 × 3 10 = 2 × 5	$ \begin{array}{ccc} 6 & = & 2 \\ 10 & = & 2 \\ & \times & 5 \end{array} $	







PART 1. Circle the common factors of the pair of numbers, then answer the questions.

4 = 2 × 2 6 = 2 × 3	6 = 2 × 3 9 = 3 × 3
The common prime factor is	The common prime factor is
The greatest common factor (GCF) is	The greatest common factor (GCF) is
$10 = 2 \times 5$ $12 = 2 \times 2 \times 3$ The common prime factor is	$14 = 2 \times 7$ $35 = 5 \times 7$ The common prime factor is

PART 2. Greatest common factor can also be found by multiplying all the common prime factors.

 $18 = 2 \times 3 \times 3 \\ 12 = 2 \times 2 \times 3$ The common prime factors are 2 and 3 $The greatest common factor (GCF) is 2 \times 3 = 6$ $EXAMPLE 20 = 2 \times 2 \times 5 \\ 30 = 2 \times 3 \times 5$ The common prime factors are 2 and 5 $The greatest common factor (GCF) is 2 \times 5 = 10$