

5.5 (page 177) Adding & Subtracting Like Fractions

Adding Like Fractions:

To add fractions with like denominators, add the numerators.

Subtracting Like Fractions:

To subtract fractions with like denominators, subtract the numerators.

Remember: The denominators cannot be zero. You can never divide by zero.

Solve each equation. Write each solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{5}{7} + \frac{8}{7} = r$$

$$\frac{5+8}{7} = \frac{13}{7} \text{ or } 1\frac{6}{7}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1\frac{6}{7} \\ 7 \overline{)13} \\ \underline{-7} \\ 6 \end{array}$$

Solve each equation. Write each solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{21}{5} + \frac{19}{5} = r$$

$$\frac{21+19}{5} = \frac{40 \div 5}{5 \div 5} = \frac{8}{1} = \boxed{8}$$

Solve each equation. Write each solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{17}{20} - \frac{2}{20} = g$$

$$\frac{17-2}{20} = \frac{15 \div 5}{20 \div 5} = \boxed{\frac{3}{4}}$$

Solve each equation. Write each solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{4}{9} - \frac{15}{9} = r$$

$$\frac{4-15}{9} = \frac{4+(-15)}{9} = \frac{-11}{9} \text{ or } -1\frac{2}{9}$$

$9 \overline{) 11}$
 $\underline{-9}$
 2

Solve each equation. Write each solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{42}{16} + \frac{12}{16} = j$$

$$\frac{42+12}{16} = \frac{54}{16} \div 2 = \frac{27}{8} \text{ or } 3\frac{3}{8}$$

$8 \overline{) 27}$
 $\underline{-24}$
 3

Solve each equation. Write each solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{18}{26} + \frac{-15}{26} = m$$

$$\frac{18 + -15}{26} = \boxed{\frac{3}{26}}$$

5.6 (page 180) Adding & Subtracting Unlike Fractions

Adding & Subtracting Unlike Fractions

To find the sum or difference of two fractions with unlike denominators, rename the fractions with a common denominator. Then add or subtract & simplify.

Reminder: Use the least common denominator (LCD) method to rename the fractions with a common denominator.

(Chapter 4 Section 8 in your textbook)

5.6 (page 180) Adding & Subtracting Unlike Fractions

Example: Solve each equation. Write the solution in simplest form.

$$\left(-\frac{1 \cdot 8}{3 \cdot 8}\right) + \frac{3 \cdot 3}{8 \cdot 3}$$

$$\frac{-8}{24} + \frac{9}{24} = \boxed{\frac{1}{24}}$$

5.6 (page 180) Adding & Subtracting Unlike Fractions

Example: Solve each equation. Write the solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{9 \cdot 3}{5 \cdot 3} + \left(-\frac{4 \cdot 5}{3 \cdot 5}\right)$$

$$\frac{27}{15} + \frac{-20}{15} = \boxed{\frac{7}{15}}$$

5.6 (page 180) Adding & Subtracting Unlike Fractions

Example: Solve each equation. Write the solution in simplest form.

$$\left(-\frac{4}{3}\right) - \left(-\frac{3}{2}\right)$$

$$\frac{-8}{6} + \frac{+9}{6} = \frac{-8+9}{6} = \boxed{\frac{1}{6}}$$

5.6 (page 180) Adding & Subtracting Unlike Fractions

Example: Solve each equation. Write the solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{9}{5} - \frac{5}{8}$$

$$\frac{72}{40} - \frac{25}{40} = \boxed{\frac{47}{40} \text{ or } 1\frac{7}{40}}$$

5.6 (page 180) Adding & Subtracting Unlike Fractions

Example: Solve each equation. Write the solution in simplest form.

$$\frac{2 \cdot 8}{1 \cdot 8} - \frac{13}{8}$$

$$\frac{16}{8} - \frac{13}{8} = \boxed{\frac{3}{8}}$$

$$3 \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{7}{2}$$

$$-4 \times \frac{2}{7} = -\frac{30}{7}$$

$$6 \times \frac{7}{8} = \frac{55}{8}$$

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