

# Reducing Fractions

**Equivalent Fractions** have the same \_\_\_\_\_, even though they may look different.

These fractions are really the same:

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{4}{8}$$

To reduce a fraction to the lowest terms, you can \_\_\_\_\_ both the numerator and denominator by their \_\_\_\_\_.

**What you do to the top of the fraction,  
you must do to the bottom of the fraction!**

## What is GCF?

The Greatest Common Factor is the \_\_\_\_\_ number that two numbers can be divided by with no remainders.

Example:

12 -

15 -

When you find the GCF of the numerator and denominator, simply divide both numbers by the GCF.

$$\frac{4}{8} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

$$\frac{5}{10} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

$$\frac{12}{18} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

$$\frac{14}{21} = \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

The factors of 4 are:  
1, 2, 4

The factors of 8 are:  
1, 2, 4, 8

The greatest common  
factor is 4!

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**Equivalent Fractions** have the same value, even though they may look different.

These fractions are really the same:

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{4}{8}$$

To reduce a fraction to the lowest terms, you can divide both the numerator and denominator by their greatest common factor.

**What you do to the top of the fraction,  
you must do to the bottom of the fraction!**

## What is GCF?

The Greatest Common Factor is the highest number that two numbers can be divided by with no remainders.

Example:

12 - 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12

15 - 1, 3, 5, 15

When you find the GCF of the numerator and denominator, simply divide both numbers by the GCF.

$$\frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{5}{10} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{12}{18} = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\frac{14}{21} = \frac{2}{3}$$

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