

Fraction Subtraction

Same Denominator

Fractions with the same denominator can be subtracted by subtracting the numerators.

STEP ONE: Subtract the numerators STEP TWO: Write the new numerator STEP THREE: Keep the same denominator STEP FOUR: Simplify answer, if needed.

Subtract to find new numerator

$$\frac{3}{4} - \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\frac{4}{5} - \frac{2}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$$

Different Denominator

Fractions with different denominators can be subtracted using these two steps.

You can either convert the fractions so that they have the same denominator, OR: STEP ONE: Multiply the first numerator across with the second denominator STEP TWO: Multiply the second numerator across with the first denominator STEP THREE: Multiply both denominators STEP FOUR: Divide using this formula:

$$\frac{Step\ 1 - Step\ 2}{Step\ 3}$$

STEP FIVE: Simplify answer, if needed.

$$\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{8} = \frac{(3 \times 8) - (2 \times 4)}{(4 \times 8)} = \frac{16}{32} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Instructions: Subtract the fractions below.

$$1 \quad \frac{3}{4} \quad - \quad \frac{2}{4} \quad = \qquad \qquad 2 \quad \frac{7}{12} \quad - \quad \frac{2}{12} \quad = \qquad \qquad$$

$$3 \quad \frac{6}{7} \quad - \quad \frac{2}{7} \quad = \qquad \qquad 4 \quad \frac{9}{11} \quad - \quad \frac{6}{11} \quad = \qquad \qquad \frac{6}{11} \quad = \qquad \frac{6}{11}$$



| 5 | 7 8 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 6 | 11 12 | _ | 1 3 |
|----|----------|---|---------------|----|----------------|---|--------|
| 7 | 11 20 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 8 | 9 10 | | 2 5 |
| 9 | <u>8</u> | _ | 2 3 | 10 | <u>5</u> 12 | _ | 1/3 |
| 11 | 11 12 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 12 | 5 14 | _ | 1 7 |



| 13 | 7 8 | _ | 3 4 | 14 | 13 15 | _ | 2 5 |
|----|-------------------|---|-------------------|----|----------|---|---------------|
| 15 | 8 18 | _ | 3 9 | 16 | 15 24 | | 1 6 |
| 17 | 17 20 | _ | 3 4 | 18 | 14 27 | | <u>2</u> 9 |
| 19 | 18 21 | _ | 1 3 | 20 | 19 24 | _ | 3 8 |



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Subtract to find new numerator

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$$\frac{4}{5} - \frac{2}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$$

Different Denominator

Fractions with different denominators can be subtracted using these two steps.

You can either convert the fractions so that they have the same denominator, OR: STEP ONE: Multiply the first numerator across with the second denominator STEP TWO: Multiply the second numerator across with the first denominator STEP THREE: Multiply both denominators STEP FOUR: Divide using this formula:

$$\frac{Step\ 1 - Step\ 2}{Step\ 3}$$

STEP FIVE: Simplify answer, if needed.

$$\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{2}{8} = \frac{(3 \times 8) - (2 \times 4)}{(4 \times 8)} = \frac{16}{32} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Instructions: Subtract the fractions below.



| 5 | <u>5</u> 9 | _ | 1 3 | 6 | 7 12 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ |
|----|---------------|---|---------------|----|--------------------|---|---------------|
| 7 | 13 20 | _ | 2 5 | 8 | 14 15 | | <u>2</u> 3 |
| 9 | 15 21 | - | 1/3 | 10 | 17 18 | | <u>2</u> 3 |
| 11 | 16 24 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 12 | 11 12 | _ | $\frac{3}{4}$ |



| 13 | 14 16 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 14 | 19 25 | _ | 3 5 |
|----|-------------------|---|---------------|----|-------------------|---|---------------|
| 15 | 23 30 | _ | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 16 | 3 5 | | $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| 17 | 7 8 | - | 3 16 | 18 | 12 18 | | 4 9 |
| 19 | 7 11 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ | 20 | 10 32 | _ | $\frac{1}{4}$ |