



Mixed Fraction Addition & Subtraction

Adding & Subtracting Mixed Fractions

The best way to add and subtract mixed fractions is to start by converting each fraction to an improper fraction.

EXAMPLE: What is $2\frac{1}{2} + 4\frac{1}{3}$?

(1) Convert the mixed fractions to improper fractions.

$$2\frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{2} \quad 4\frac{1}{3} = \frac{13}{3}$$

(3) Convert the improper fractions so that they have the same denominator. This new denominator is the lowest common multiple.

$$\text{LCM of 2 and 3 is 6} \quad \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{3}{3} = \frac{15}{6} \quad \frac{13}{3} \times \frac{2}{2} = \frac{26}{6}$$

(4) Now, you can add or subtract the converted fractions

$$\frac{15}{6} + \frac{26}{6} = \frac{41}{6}$$

(5) Convert your answer back to a mixed fraction.

$$\frac{41}{6} = 6\frac{5}{6}$$



Instructions: Answer the mixed fraction questions below.

1 $1\frac{1}{2} + 1\frac{2}{3}$

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

3 $4\frac{1}{2} + 3\frac{2}{5}$

4 $2\frac{2}{3} + 1\frac{1}{4}$

5 $5\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{1}{3}$



6 $2\frac{1}{4} + 1\frac{3}{5}$

7 $6\frac{3}{4} - 3\frac{1}{3}$

8 $4\frac{1}{5} + 3\frac{1}{6}$

9 $5\frac{1}{3} + 1\frac{2}{5}$

10 $13\frac{1}{3} - 4\frac{1}{5}$

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$$\frac{15}{6} + \frac{26}{6} = \frac{41}{6}$$

(5) Convert your answer back to a mixed fraction.

$$\frac{41}{6} = 6\frac{5}{6}$$



Instructions: Answer the mixed fraction questions below.

1 $9\frac{1}{2} - 2\frac{1}{3}$

2 $6\frac{1}{3} + 5\frac{1}{4}$

3 $5\frac{3}{5} + 2\frac{1}{2}$

4 $8\frac{1}{3} - 2\frac{1}{4}$

5 $3\frac{4}{5} + 9\frac{1}{2}$



6 $4\frac{2}{3} + 4\frac{1}{5}$

7 $9\frac{2}{3} - 6\frac{1}{8}$

8 $12\frac{5}{6} - 8\frac{3}{4}$

9 $18\frac{7}{8} + 7\frac{1}{3}$

10 $17\frac{3}{7} - 3\frac{1}{6}$