

Name: _____

Subtracting Fractions

with Unlike Denominators

Step 1: Find equivalent fractions and rewrite the problem so that the denominators are the same.

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

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{8} \\ - \frac{1}{8} = -\frac{1}{8} \\ \hline \frac{1}{8} \end{array}$$

Step 2: Subtract the numerators and use the same denominators in your answer.

Step 3: Simplify if possible.

a. $\frac{4}{8}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{4}{8} \\ - \frac{1}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

b. $\frac{7}{12}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{7}{12} \\ - \frac{3}{6} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

c. $\frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{2} \\ - \frac{1}{6} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

d. $\frac{9}{10}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{9}{10} \\ - \frac{1}{2} \\ \hline \end{array}$$



Preview

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i. $\frac{1}{2}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{2} \\ - \frac{1}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

j. $\frac{5}{8}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{5}{8} \\ - \frac{2}{4} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

k. $\frac{9}{10}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{9}{10} \\ - \frac{2}{5} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

l. $\frac{5}{6}$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{5}{6} \\ - \frac{2}{3} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

ANSWER KEY

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Step 1: Find equivalent fractions and rewrite the problem so that the denominators are the same.

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

Step 2: Subtract the numerators and use the same denominators in your answer.

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{1}{4} \\ - \frac{1}{8} \\ \hline \end{array} = \frac{2}{8} - \frac{1}{8} = \frac{1}{8}$$

Step 3: Simplify if possible.

a. $\frac{4}{4}$

b. $\frac{7}{7}$

c. $\frac{1}{1}$

d. $\frac{9}{9}$

Preview

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e.

i.

$$\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\frac{1}{8}$$

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

$$\frac{1}{6}$$