



Key Instant Recall Facts (KIRFS) I can write fractions in their simplest form.

Vocabulary

Fraction	A number that represents a part of a whole
Numerator	The numerator represents the number of equal parts of a whole.
Denominator	The denominator is the total number of parts that make up said whole.
Simplify/Simplest Form	A fraction is in simplest form when the top and bottom cannot be any smaller, while still being whole numbers. To simplify a fraction: divide the top and bottom by the greatest number that will divide both numbers exactly (they must stay whole numbers).

To simplify a fraction, you need to find the highest common factor of the numerator and the denominator. For example, $\frac{8}{20}$ —the highest common factor of 8 and 20 is 4.

You then need to divide the numerator and denominator by 4. This would give us $\frac{2}{5}$.

Some people like to cheat halving the numbers but be warned, this does not always

How can my parents help at home?

Knowing your times tables (and related division facts) up to 12×12 is essential for simplifying fractions. If you are struggling with this it might be worth practising your times tables alongside this work.

Knowing your factors and multiplies. A factor pair are 2 numbers that multiply to make another number. For example, the factors of 12 are 1×12 , 2×6 and 3×4 .

A multiple is a product of 2 numbers. The first five multiples of 4 are 4, 8, 12, 16, 20.

Method One

Try to **exactly divide** (only whole number answers) both the top and bottom of the fraction by 2, 3, 5, 7, ... etc, until we can't go any further.

$$\frac{24}{108} \xrightarrow{\div 2} \frac{12}{54} \xrightarrow{\div 2} \frac{6}{27} \xrightarrow{\div 3} \frac{2}{9}$$

Method Two

Divide both the top and bottom of the fraction by the highest common factor of the numerator and denominator.

Example:

The largest number that goes exactly into both 8 and 12 is 4, so the Greatest Common Factor is 4. Divide both top and bottom by 4:

$$\frac{8}{12} \xrightarrow{\div 4} \frac{2}{3}$$