

Mixed Fraction Addition & Subtraction

Adding & Subtracting Mixed Fractions

The best way to add and subtract mixed fractions is to convert each fraction to an improper fraction.

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

(1) Convert the mixed fractions into an improper fraction.

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

(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 $8\frac{4}{5} - 3\frac{4}{7}$

2 $11\frac{4}{7} + 8\frac{2}{3}$

3 $18\frac{1}{2} - 3\frac{2}{5}$

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

5 $15\frac{2}{3} + 9\frac{7}{8}$



6 $13\frac{3}{10} - 9\frac{3}{5}$

7 $17\frac{2}{7} - 7\frac{1}{2}$

8 $28\frac{4}{11} + 7\frac{5}{6}$

9 $19\frac{1}{8} - 12\frac{3}{5}$

10 $21\frac{5}{9} + 13\frac{4}{5}$

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

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

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



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1 $11\frac{2}{3} - 8\frac{6}{7}$

2 $14\frac{5}{6} + 7\frac{3}{4}$

3 $9\frac{1}{5} + 9\frac{8}{9}$

4 $29\frac{1}{5} - 13\frac{5}{6}$

5 $12\frac{1}{6} - 5\frac{4}{7}$



6 $22\frac{3}{4} + 18\frac{4}{9}$

7 $13\frac{6}{11} - 4\frac{2}{3}$

8 $16\frac{3}{5} + 9\frac{5}{7}$

9 $17\frac{7}{8} - 15\frac{9}{11}$

10 $33\frac{2}{9} - 17\frac{4}{6}$