



SIMPLIFYING OR REDUCING FRACTIONS

To simplify fractions, begin by finding the greatest common factor (GCF) of both the numerator and the denominator. Then, divide both the numerator and denominators by the GCF.

Example:

Simplify $\frac{18}{36}$

Step 1: Find the GCF of the numerator and the denominator.	$18 = 2 \times 3 \times 3$ $36 = 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 3$ $GCF = 2 \times 3 \times 3 = 18$
Step 2: Divide both the numerator and the denominator by the GCF.	$\frac{18 \div 18}{36 \div 18}$
Step 3: Write the fraction in simplified form.	$\frac{1}{2}$

Example:

Simplify $\frac{68}{102}$

Step 1: Find the GCF of the numerator and the denominator.	$68 = 2 \times 2 \times 17$ $102 = 2 \times 3 \times 17$ $GCF = 2 \times 17 = 34$
Step 2: Divide both the numerator and the denominator by the GCF.	$\frac{68 \div 34}{102 \div 34}$
Step 3: Write the fraction in simplified form.	$\frac{2}{3}$

