

Ordering Fractions

Rule #1- If the denominators are the same, the fraction with the greatest **numerator** has the greatest value.

Example: Arrange the following fractions in ascending order (smallest first).

$$\frac{1}{7}, \frac{5}{7}, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{6}{7} \quad \text{least to greatest} = \frac{1}{7}, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{5}{7}, \frac{6}{7}$$

Write the following fractions in ascending order.

a) $\frac{6}{9}, \frac{1}{9}, \frac{5}{9}, \frac{3}{9} =$

b) $\frac{2}{10}, \frac{9}{10}, \frac{8}{10}, \frac{4}{10} =$

c) $\frac{6}{13}, \frac{1}{13}, \frac{12}{13}, \frac{10}{13} =$

d) $\frac{7}{8}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{5}{8}, \frac{1}{8} =$

e) $\frac{5}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{9}{4}, \frac{2}{4} =$

f) $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{15}{2}, \frac{3}{2}, \frac{9}{2} =$

Rule #2- If the denominators are different, find the Lowest Common Multiple (LCM) and multiply the fractions to show the equivalent fractions with the LCM as the denominator.

Watch the video below.



E.g Write the following fractions in ascending order (smallest first).

$$\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{7}{8}$$

Step 1: If the denominators are different, find the LCM.

$$4- 4, \mathbf{8}, 12, 16, 20$$

$$8- \mathbf{8}, 16, 24, 32$$

$$2- 2, 4, 6, \mathbf{8}, 10, 12$$

$$\text{LCM} = \mathbf{8}$$

Step 2: Multiply the fractions to form equivalent fractions.

$$\begin{array}{cccc} \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 1 \times 2 \\ 4 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 3 \\ 3 \times 1 \\ 8 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 4 \\ 1 \times 4 \\ 2 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 7 \\ 7 \times 1 \\ 8 \end{array} \\ \hline \frac{1}{4} & , \frac{3}{8} & , \frac{1}{2} & , \frac{7}{8} \\ \hline \frac{2}{8} & , \frac{3}{8} & , \frac{4}{8} & , \frac{7}{8} \end{array}$$

Step 3: Write the fractions in the correct order by looking at the numerator.

$$\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{7}{8} = \frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{4}{8}, \frac{7}{8}$$

Write the following fractions in ascending order.

a) $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{6}, \frac{1}{3} =$

b) $\frac{2}{5}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{2} =$

c) $\frac{1}{4}, \frac{5}{8}, \frac{1}{2} =$

d) $\frac{3}{5}, \frac{2}{3}, \frac{3}{10} =$

e) $\frac{3}{4}, \frac{7}{12}, \frac{5}{12} =$

f) $\frac{3}{12}, \frac{5}{6}, \frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{3} =$