

Maths Star

Multiplication of Fractions

Multiplication is the easiest fraction sum. You simply multiply the two numerators together, then multiply the two denominators together, then simplify!

$$\text{E.g. } \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{3} = \frac{1 \times 2}{2 \times 3} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Sometimes, with bigger numbers it is easier to simplify some of the numbers before you start. You can cancel down 2 ways:

- Vertically: $\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{2}{6}$ → This cancels down to $\frac{1}{3}$
- Diagonally: $\frac{4}{5} \times \frac{1}{8}$ The 4 and 8 cancel down: $\frac{1}{5} \times \frac{1}{2}$

Try it yourself:

1) $\frac{1}{5} \times \frac{2}{3}$

2) $\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{3}{8}$

3) $\frac{5}{10} \times \frac{4}{7}$

4) $\frac{3}{4} \times \frac{4}{10}$

5) $\frac{7}{18} \times \frac{6}{14}$