

**Multiplication of fractions worksheet.** Professor Luis Fernández

**Multiplying a whole number times a fraction:  $a \cdot \frac{b}{c}$**

Remember:  $a \cdot \frac{b}{c} = \frac{a \cdot b}{c}$ . For example:  $3 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ .

In pictures:

$$3 \times \frac{1}{4} = 3 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \text{shaded} & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|} \hline \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \\ \hline \end{array} = \frac{3}{4}$$

Another example:  $4 \cdot \frac{2}{9} = \frac{8}{9}$ .

In pictures:

$$4 \times \frac{2}{9} = 3 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \text{shaded} & \\ \hline \end{array} = \frac{8}{9}$$

In the following, shade the part corresponding to the fraction, then multiply it by the number given and write the result at the end, as in the examples above.

1.  $2 \times \frac{3}{7} = 2 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
2.  $5 \times \frac{1}{8} = 5 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
3.  $2 \times \frac{3}{6} = 2 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
4.  $3 \times \frac{2}{9} = 3 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
5.  $4 \times \frac{2}{11} = 4 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$
6.  $4 \times \frac{1}{7} = 4 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline & & & & & & \\ \hline \end{array} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

Now without the pictures. Multiply the following. **Remember to leave the final result in lowest terms.**

- |   |                              |                              |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 7. $5 \cdot \frac{3}{10} = \frac{15}{10} = \frac{3}{2}$ (example) | 8. $2 \cdot \frac{3}{7} =$   | 9. $4 \times \frac{5}{9} =$  |
| 10. $2 \cdot \frac{5}{6} =$                                       | 11. $6 \times \frac{5}{3} =$ | 12. $5 \cdot \frac{2}{8} =$  |
| 13. $7 \times \frac{3}{2} =$                                      | 14. $5 \cdot \frac{2}{5} =$  | 15. $2 \times \frac{3}{8} =$ |
| 16. $3 \cdot \frac{4}{9} =$                                       | 17. $2 \cdot \frac{1}{5} =$  | 18. $1 \cdot \frac{3}{6} =$  |
| 19. $7 \cdot \frac{9}{4} =$                                       | 20. $8 \cdot \frac{5}{2} =$  | 21. $10 \cdot \frac{2}{5} =$ |
| 22. $6 \cdot \frac{3}{2} =$                                       | 23. $2 \cdot \frac{11}{6} =$ | 24. $5 \cdot \frac{12}{5} =$ |

## Multiplying two fractions

Remember:  $\frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{c}{d} = \frac{a \cdot c}{b \cdot d}$ . For example:  $\frac{5}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{7} = \frac{5 \cdot 2}{3 \cdot 7} = \frac{10}{21}$ .

Do not forget to simplify the final function and leave it in lowest terms.

For example:  $\frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{10}{3} = \frac{2 \cdot 10}{5 \cdot 3} = \frac{20}{15} = \frac{4}{3}$ .

Multiply and leave the final answer in lowest terms.

25.  $\frac{3}{7} \cdot \frac{5}{3} = \frac{3 \cdot 5}{7 \cdot 3} = \frac{15}{21} = \frac{5}{7}$  (ex.)

26.  $\frac{3}{7} \cdot \frac{3}{2} =$

27.  $\frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{7}{3} =$

28.  $\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{4} =$

29.  $\frac{3}{1} \cdot \frac{2}{7} =$

30.  $\frac{6}{8} \cdot \frac{4}{9} =$

31.  $\frac{7}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{8} =$

32.  $\frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{4}{6} =$

33.  $\frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{5}{1} =$

34.  $\frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{7} =$

35.  $\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} =$

36.  $\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{4}{5} =$

37.  $\frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{2}{9} =$

38.  $4 \cdot \frac{3}{8} =$

39.  $5 \cdot \frac{6}{7} =$

40.  $\frac{7}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{12} =$

41.  $\frac{4}{1} \cdot \frac{3}{8} =$

42.  $\frac{5}{1} \cdot \frac{6}{7} =$

43.  $3 \cdot \frac{4}{5} =$

44.  $\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{13}{4} =$

45.  $\frac{5}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{5} =$

46.  $\frac{3}{1} \cdot \frac{4}{5} =$

47.  $\frac{3}{7} \cdot \frac{7}{3} =$

48.  $\frac{1}{8} \cdot \frac{8}{1} =$

49.  $\frac{4}{7} \cdot \frac{3}{4} =$

50.  $\frac{3}{5} \cdot \frac{5}{2} =$

51.  $\frac{3}{8} \cdot \frac{8}{3} =$

52.  $\frac{23}{15} \cdot \frac{15}{23} =$

53.  $\frac{11}{4} \cdot \frac{5}{22} =$

54.  $\frac{123}{456} \cdot \frac{456}{123} =$

## Cancelling common factors before multiplying

It is much more efficient and easier to first divide the numerator and denominator by their common factors, and then multiply.

For example:  $\frac{14}{5} \cdot \frac{15}{4} = \frac{14 \cdot 15}{5 \cdot 4} = \frac{7 \cdot 3}{1 \cdot 2} = \frac{21}{2}$ .

(First we divided the 14 in the numerator and the 4 in the denominator by 2, and then the 15 in the numerator and the 5 in the denominator by 5. Then we multiplied.)

Multiply by first cancelling common factors and then multiplying, as above. (Note: it is OK to not do it this way, but it is much easier and faster!)

55.  $\frac{4}{8} \cdot \frac{5}{15} =$

56.  $\frac{7}{3} \cdot \frac{9}{14} =$

57.  $\frac{6}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{3} =$

58.  $\frac{6}{5} \cdot \frac{20}{8} =$

59.  $\frac{12}{5} \cdot \frac{10}{9} =$

60.  $\frac{1}{10} \cdot \frac{100}{7} =$

61.  $\frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{9}{8} =$

62.  $\frac{35}{4} \cdot \frac{8}{5} =$

63.  $\frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{10}{12} =$