

Simplifying Fractions

To **simplify** is to put the fraction in its **simplest** form. Use what you have learned about **equivalent** fractions.

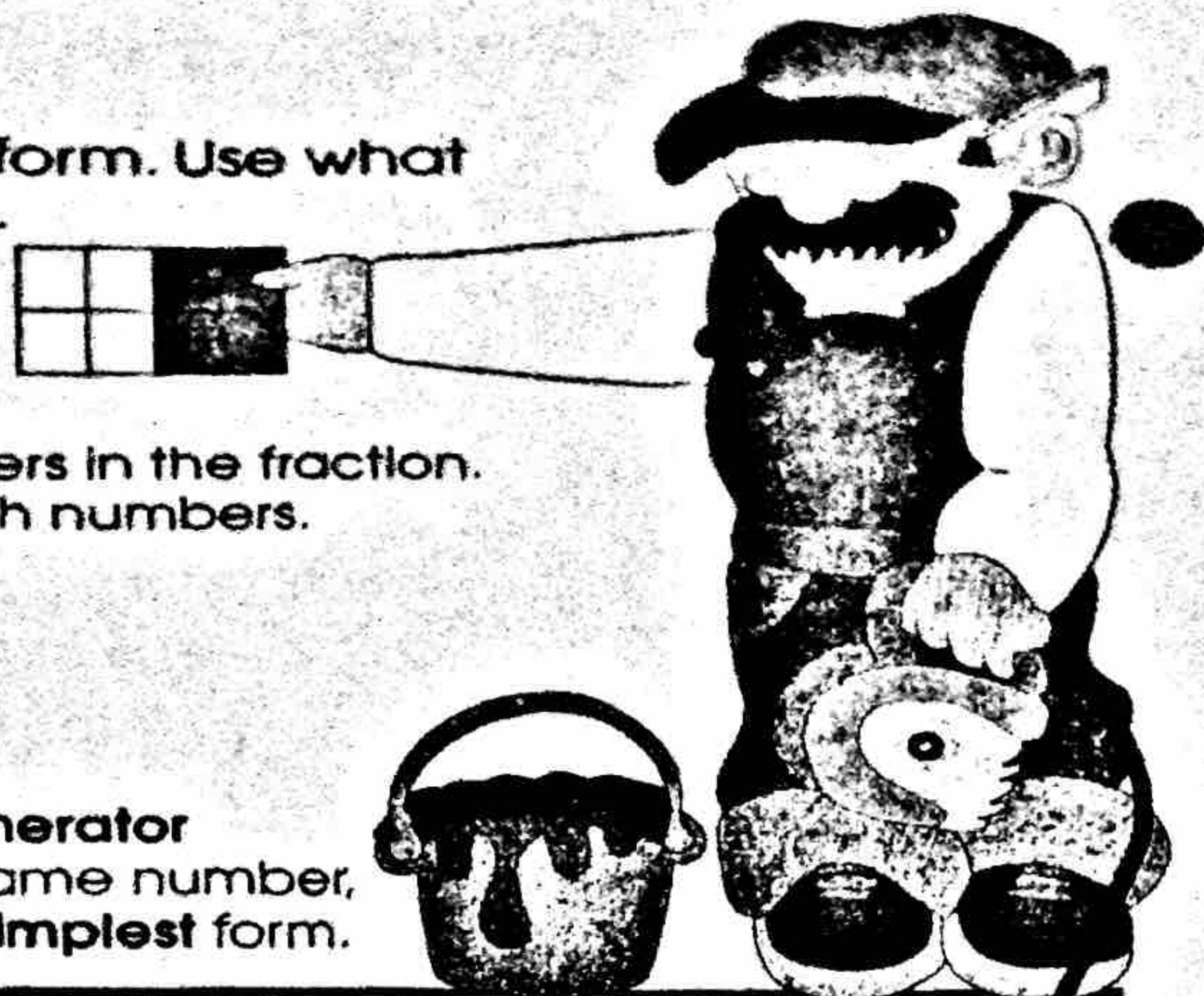
Simplify: $\frac{4}{8}$ What common divisor can go into 4 and 8?

Sometimes it can be one of the numbers in the fraction. (Check this out first.) 4 can go into both numbers.

4 into $\frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{4}{8}$ simplified is $\frac{1}{2}$

Equivalent Tryout

$\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{6}$ $\frac{4}{8}$ If you cannot divide the **numerator** and **denominator** with the same number, the fraction is already in its **simplest** form.



Try it! The first one is done for you.

Fraction	Common Divisor	Simplified	Equivalent Tryout			
1. $\frac{10}{15}$	5	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{4}{6}$	$\frac{6}{9}$	$\frac{8}{12}$	$\frac{10}{15}$
2. $\frac{5}{10}$	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. $\frac{2}{8}$	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. $\frac{9}{12}$	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. $\frac{8}{16}$	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

What Did the Doctor Say to the Guy Who Thought He Was a Wigwam One Day and a Teepee the Next?

Circle one fraction in each set. Notice the letter above it. Write this letter in the box at the bottom of the page that contains the exercise number.

I. Circle the fraction that is equivalent to the first fraction in the set.

1

	G	T	V
$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{2}{9}$	$\frac{4}{12}$	$\frac{5}{18}$

2

	I	P	O
$\frac{2}{5}$	$\frac{6}{12}$	$\frac{18}{40}$	$\frac{14}{35}$

3

	F	M	E
$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{21}{32}$	$\frac{15}{20}$

4

	A	W	L
$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{30}{48}$	$\frac{20}{24}$	$\frac{45}{64}$

5

	K	S	C
$\frac{4}{9}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$\frac{12}{27}$	$\frac{28}{72}$

6

	B	E	R
$\frac{6}{7}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	$\frac{48}{56}$	$\frac{24}{35}$

7

	N	F	U
$\frac{7}{10}$	$\frac{42}{50}$	$\frac{6}{9}$	$\frac{70}{100}$

8

	T	A	O
$\frac{5}{12}$	$\frac{20}{48}$	$\frac{10}{36}$	$\frac{30}{84}$

9

	H	T	E
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{7}{15}$	$\frac{16}{30}$	$\frac{12}{24}$

II. Circle the fraction that is in lowest terms.

10

V	I	U	M
$\frac{5}{10}$	$\frac{6}{9}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{2}{6}$

11

N	Y	L	S
$\frac{4}{8}$	$\frac{2}{9}$	$\frac{15}{25}$	$\frac{10}{14}$

12

G	P	O	A
$\frac{6}{8}$	$\frac{3}{9}$	$\frac{7}{12}$	$\frac{20}{45}$

13

D	T	L	R
$\frac{4}{12}$	$\frac{9}{15}$	$\frac{2}{4}$	$\frac{5}{6}$

14

P	B	N	S
$\frac{12}{18}$	$\frac{7}{14}$	$\frac{9}{12}$	$\frac{8}{15}$

15

T	H	F	Y
$\frac{10}{21}$	$\frac{4}{32}$	$\frac{6}{10}$	$\frac{15}{24}$

16

C	J	G	W
$\frac{8}{22}$	$\frac{9}{16}$	$\frac{10}{35}$	$\frac{3}{12}$

17

E	I	R	O
$\frac{6}{15}$	$\frac{7}{42}$	$\frac{11}{33}$	$\frac{12}{25}$

18

N	D	K	X
$\frac{4}{5}$	$\frac{12}{16}$	$\frac{15}{36}$	$\frac{2}{8}$

11	2	7	4	13	6	16	10	14	1	8	17	12	15	3	18	5	9
									T								