NAME _____ DATE _____ PERIOD _____

Lesson 4 Reteach

Add and Subtract Unlike Fractions

To add or subtract fractions with different denominators,

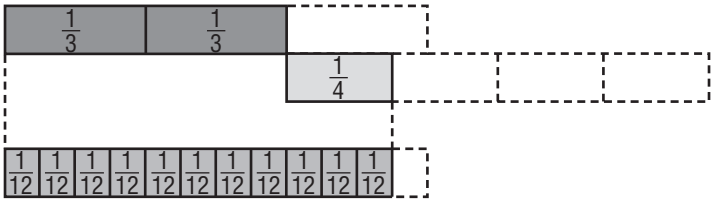
- Rename the fractions using the least common denominator (LCD).
- Add or subtract as with like fractions.
- If necessary, simplify the sum or difference.

Example

Find $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4}$.

Method 1 Use a model.

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{2}{3} \\ +\ \frac{1}{4} \\ \hline \frac{11}{12} \end{array}$$



Method 2 Use the LCD.

$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{4}{4} + \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{3}$ Rename using the LCD, 12.

$= \frac{8}{12} + \frac{3}{12}$ or $\frac{11}{12}$ Add the fractions.

Exercises

Add or subtract. Write in simplest form.

1. $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{4}$ $1\frac{1}{4}$
2. $\frac{3}{8} - \frac{1}{2}$ $-\frac{1}{8}$
3. $\frac{7}{15} + \left(-\frac{5}{6}\right)$ $-\frac{11}{30}$
4. $\frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{3}$ $\frac{1}{15}$
5. $\frac{5}{9} + \left(-\frac{5}{12}\right)$ $\frac{5}{36}$
6. $\frac{11}{12} - \frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{6}$
7. $\frac{7}{8} - \left(-\frac{1}{3}\right)$ $1\frac{5}{24}$
8. $\frac{7}{9} - \frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{5}{18}$
9. $\frac{3}{10} + \frac{7}{12}$ $\frac{53}{60}$
10. $\frac{3}{5} + \frac{2}{3}$ $1\frac{4}{15}$