

6.3 Multiplying/Dividing Fractions (Rational Numbers)

Properties for Rational Numbers with Multiplication

1. Closure
2. Commutativity
3. Associativity
4. Multiplicative Identity
5. Multiplicative Inverse

To multiply fractions: $\frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ac}{bd}$

Multiplication Models

1. Repeated Addition

2. Area model

Division with Fractions

To divide fractions: $\frac{a}{b} \div \frac{c}{d} = \frac{ad}{bc}$ but why?

Use $\frac{3}{4} \div \frac{1}{8}$ as a starting argument.

$4 \div \frac{1}{2}$ means "how many groups of one-half are there in 4?"

$\frac{1}{2} \div \frac{1}{6}$ means:

Examples:

$$1. \frac{50.39.5}{15 \ 55 \ 2}$$

$$6. 13\frac{9}{8}$$

$$2. \frac{3.32}{4 \ 18}$$

$$7. \frac{6}{25} \div \frac{3}{5}$$

$$3. \frac{23.22}{4 \ 3}$$

$$4. \frac{4}{11} \div \frac{7}{22}$$

$$5. \frac{6}{13} \div \frac{2}{39}$$

Students often confuse dividing by 2 with dividing by $\frac{1}{2}$.
Write two story problems that show the difference.