Adding and Subtracting Fractions

Facts

- Adding and subtracting fractions require both fractions to have the same denominator (a 'common denominator')

Example

$\times 4 \left(\dfrac{\dfrac{2}{5} + \dfrac{1}{4}}{\dfrac{8}{20} + \dfrac{5}{20}} \right) \times 5$

$$\dfrac{13}{20}$$

1) Find a common denominator (lowest common multiple)

2) Find equivalent fractions with that common denominator

3) Add or subtract

4) Simplify

Example

$\times 8 \left(\dfrac{\dfrac{2}{3} - \dfrac{3}{8}}{\dfrac{16}{24} - \dfrac{9}{24}} \right) \times 3$

$$\dfrac{7}{24}$$

1) Find a common denominator (lowest common multiple)

2) Find equivalent fractions with that common denominator

3) Add or subtract

4) Simplify