



Subtracting Fractions

Mental Maths Warm Up

Answer these as quickly as you can, saying your answer out loud or in your head...

1. What is $\frac{5}{7} - \frac{3}{7}$?
2. Jaya has a bag of sweets — she eats two fifths of the bag. How much of the bag does she have left?
3. Find the missing number: $\frac{10}{11} - \frac{?}{11} = \frac{4}{11}$

Now try these. Do your working in the spaces, and copy your answers into the boxes. Give your answers in their simplest form. One has been done for you.

1 $\frac{7}{8} - \frac{2}{8}$

$$\frac{7}{8} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{7-2}{8} = \frac{5}{8}$$

$\frac{5}{8}$

5 $\frac{15}{20} - \frac{6}{20}$

2 $\frac{9}{10} - \frac{2}{10}$

6 $\frac{11}{12} - \frac{6}{12}$

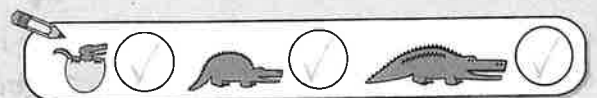
3 $\frac{7}{8} - \frac{3}{8}$

7 $\frac{38}{100} - \frac{28}{100}$

4 $\frac{6}{13} - \frac{2}{13}$

8 $\frac{8}{9} - \frac{2}{9}$

Subtracting fractions with the same denominator is no trouble for a Calcugator. How about you?



Subtracting Fractions with Different Denominators

Mental Maths Warm Up

Answer these as quickly as you can, saying your answer out loud or in your head...

1. Given that $\frac{6}{7} = \frac{18}{21}$, find the missing number: $\frac{6}{7} - \frac{?}{21} = \frac{5}{21}$

2. Seamus walked $\frac{1}{2}$ km one morning and $\frac{1}{4}$ km in the afternoon.

How much further did he walk in the morning than in the afternoon?

Answers: 1) 13 2) $\frac{1}{4}$ km

Now try these. Put each answer in the box in its simplest form. One has been done for you.

1 $\frac{5}{6} - \frac{2}{9}$

$$\frac{5}{6} = \frac{5 \times 3}{6 \times 3} = \frac{15}{18} \quad \frac{2}{9} = \frac{2 \times 2}{9 \times 2} = \frac{4}{18}$$

$$\frac{15}{18} - \frac{4}{18} = \frac{11}{18}$$

4 $\frac{34}{100} - \frac{3}{25}$

2 $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{8}$

5 $\frac{6}{7} - \frac{2}{5}$

3 $\frac{7}{10} - \frac{1}{5}$

6 $\frac{1}{6} - \frac{2}{15}$

Your average Calcugator won't sweat when faced with subtracting fractions. How about you?

