Name_____

Reteaching Page
5.7 Add and Subtract with Unlike Denominators

You can not add or subtract fractions until the denominators are the same. There are 2 ways to go about making them equal. You can find the LCD and make equivalent fractions or you can use the **across – up – up** method then simplify your answer. If you are having trouble adding and subtracting fractions with unlike denominators, then the **across – up – up** method should be the easiest way to quickly master this skill!

Let's take a look at $^{3}/_{8} + {}^{5}/_{7} =$

Using estimation we know that the answer will be a little over 1.

Now we need to get the denominators the same.

1. Multiply **across** the denominators.

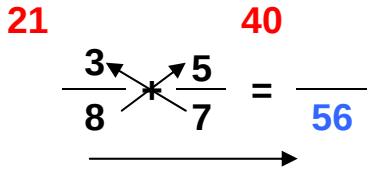
   8 * 7 = 56

2. Multiply **up** (cross multiplying)

   8 * 5 = 40

3. Multiply **up**

   7 * 3 = 21



What we have really done is created new equivalent fractions $^{21}/_{56} + {}^{40}/_{56}$.

Now compute. 21 + 40 = 61 and the fraction $^{61}/_{56}$ is simplified to $1\ {}^{5}/_{56}$.

1. Multiply **across** the denominators.

   _____ * _____ = _____

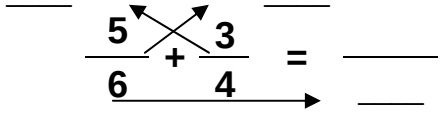
2. Multiply **up** (cross multiplying)

   _____ * _____ = _____

3. Multiply **up**

   _____ * _____ = _____

4. Simplify



Practice.

$^{1}/_{3} + {}^{2}/_{5} =$ _____

$^{7}/_{8} + {}^{2}/_{3} =$ _____

$^{5}/_{7} + {}^{3}/_{4} =$ _____

$^{7}/_{10} - {}^{2}/_{5} =$ _____

$^{5}/_{6} - {}^{3}/_{10} =$ _____

$^{2}/_{3} - {}^{1}/_{2} =$ _____