

Fractions

Essential information

Numerator and denominator

In a fraction, the number above the line is the *numerator*; the number below it is the *denominator*:

Equivalent fractions $\left(\frac{\text{numerator}}{\text{denominator}} \right)$

Note that, for example,

$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{10}{20} = \frac{5}{10} = \frac{20}{40} = \frac{50}{100}, \text{ etc.}$$

but in its simplest form is $\frac{1}{2}$.

Mixed numbers

These are of the form $\frac{a}{b}$ where $a > b$. Note though that a mixed number can be written in the form 'whole number + fraction'.

For example, $\frac{20}{3} = 6\frac{2}{3}$