



Math Study Strategies

Math for Sewing

Concept of Fractions

A fraction is part of a whole unit.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ Indicates how many parts are being used.
- $\frac{2}{2}$ Indicates the number of parts that make the whole.

Types of fractions

| Proper Fractions | Improper Fractions | Mixed numbers |
|--|--|---|
| The numerator is smaller than the denominator The fraction is less than one whole unit. | The numerator is larger than or equal to the denominator The fraction is greater than or equal to one whole unit. | The sum of at least one whole unit and a fraction |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{2}{5}$ $\frac{6}{53}$ | $\frac{3}{2}$ $\frac{5}{3}$ $\frac{8}{7}$ | $3\frac{1}{4}$ $1\frac{1}{4}$ $88\frac{2}{5}$ |

Reducing fractions

To reduce a fraction to its lowest terms, divide the numerator and denominator by the same number.

$$\frac{4}{12} \div \frac{4}{4} = \frac{1}{3} \qquad \frac{5}{15} \div \frac{5}{5} = \frac{1}{3}$$