

Converting Fractions to Decimals

*** Remember, a Rational Number is any number that can be written in the form of a fraction.

Example1 $\frac{12}{18}$

Based on what we have learned so far, can a whole number be written in the form of a fraction?

Example2 $5 = \frac{5}{1}$



Example3 $12 = \frac{12}{1}$

What does that mean? It means that Fractions and Whole Numbers fall into the category of **Rational Numbers**.

How do we convert Fractions to Decimals? There are 3 simple steps or questions that you need to ask yourself first...

1. Is it a Benchmark Fraction?

2. Is the Denominator a factor of 10, 100, 1000...
3. Use the IceCream Method (Division). If using this method, make sure that your fraction has been simplified to lowest terms.

Let's go through these steps 1 at a time.

1. Is it a Benchmark Fraction?

Step1 What is a Benchmark? A Benchmark is a value that is **commonly** used.

Example1 $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Example2 25% 50% 75%

The best way to know if it is a Benchmark, is to study your Benchmark Chart. It is broken down into the following sections to make it easier:

4ths

5ths

3rds

8ths

think "quarters"

think "20s"