

ANSWER KEY

Subtracting Mixed Numbers

With Different Denominators

Step 1: Find the Least Common Denominator (LCD).

$$\begin{array}{r} 3\frac{1}{2} \\ - 2\frac{3}{8} \\ \hline \end{array} \text{LCD} = 8$$

Step 2: Using the LCD, find equivalent fractions.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3\frac{1}{2} = 3\frac{4}{8} \\ - 2\frac{3}{8} = - 2\frac{3}{8} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Step 3: Subtract the fractions.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3\frac{1}{2} = 3\frac{4}{8} \\ - 2\frac{3}{8} = - 2\frac{3}{8} \\ \hline 1\frac{1}{8} \end{array}$$

Step 4: Subtract the whole numbers.

$$\begin{array}{r} 3\frac{1}{2} = 3\frac{4}{8} \\ - 2\frac{3}{8} = - 2\frac{3}{8} \\ \hline 1\frac{1}{8} \end{array}$$

Solve and simplify your answer.