

Find this sum:

$$\frac{3}{x^2 + 5x + 6} + \frac{2x}{x^2 + 8x + 15}$$

$$= \frac{3}{(x+3)(x+2)} + \frac{2x}{(x+5)(x+3)} \quad \text{Factor all denominators}$$

$$= \frac{(x+5) \cdot 3}{(x+5)(x+2)} + \frac{2x}{(x+5)(x+3)} \cdot \frac{(x+2)}{(x+2)} \quad \text{Get denominators to be the same}$$

$$= \frac{2x + 7x + 15}{(x+5)(x+3)(x+2)} \quad \text{Simplify the numerators by using the Distributive Property and combining like terms.}$$

Complex Fractions: (also known as Compound Fractions)

Fractions whose numerators and/or denominators also have fractions.

Simplify:

$$\frac{\frac{8}{15}}{\frac{24}{35}} = \frac{8}{15} \div \frac{24}{35} = \frac{8}{15} \cdot \frac{35}{24} = \frac{1 \cdot 7}{3 \cdot 3} = \frac{7}{9}$$

Simplify:

$$\frac{3 + \frac{4}{3}}{\frac{11}{6} - 1}$$

There are many methods to do this, I'll focus on two methods.

$$\frac{3 + \frac{4}{3}}{\frac{11}{6} - 1}$$

Find LCM of all the denominators in the complex fraction. Then multiply the Numerator and Denominator of the complex fraction by this LCM.

$$\frac{18 + 8}{11 - 6} = \frac{26}{5}$$

$$\frac{6}{6} \cdot \frac{3 + \frac{4}{3}}{\frac{11}{6} - \frac{1}{1}} \cdot \frac{2}{2}$$

Get ALL the "parts" of the complex fraction to have the LCD.
Then you can cancel all of the denominators.

$$\frac{\frac{18}{\cancel{6}} + \frac{8}{\cancel{6}}}{\frac{11}{\cancel{6}} - \frac{6}{\cancel{6}}} = \frac{18 + 8}{11 - 6} = \boxed{\frac{26}{5}}$$

Simplify:

$$\frac{\frac{xy^3}{xy^3} \cdot \frac{2}{x} + \frac{5}{y^3} \cdot \frac{x^2}{x^2}}{\frac{y^3}{y^3} \cdot \frac{3}{x^2} - \frac{6}{y^2} \cdot \frac{x^2y}{x^2y}} = \frac{\frac{2xy^3}{\cancel{xy^3}} + \frac{5x^2}{\cancel{xy^3}}}{\frac{3y^3}{\cancel{xy^3}} - \frac{6x^2y}{\cancel{xy^3}}} = \boxed{\frac{2xy^3 + 5x^2}{3y^3 - 6x^2y}}$$

Simplify:

$$\frac{\frac{10}{x} + \frac{4}{xy}}{\frac{2}{x^2y} - \frac{3}{xy^2}} \cdot \frac{\tilde{xy^2}}{\tilde{xy^2}} = \boxed{\frac{10xy^2 + 4xy}{2y - 3x}}$$