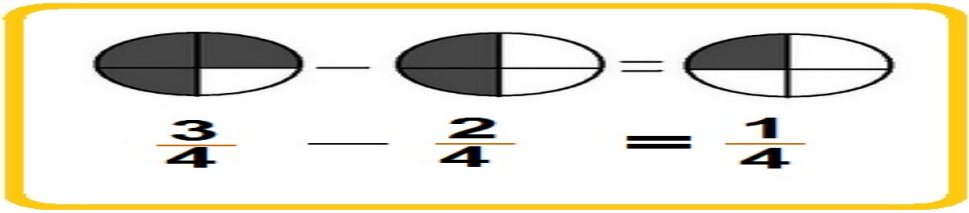
SUBTRACTING FRACTIONS WITH LIKE DENOMINATORS



STEP 1: SUBTRACT NUMERATOR MINUS NUMERATOR

STEP 2: DENOMINATOR STAYS THE SAME

ALWAYS REDUCE IF POSSIBLE

SUBTRACTING FRACTIONS WITH UNLIKE DENOMINATORS

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

STEP 1: Find the Least Common Denominator (LCD) that the denominators share

EX: 3 (3, 6, 9, 12, …) 4 (4, 8, 12, 16, …)

**(12 is the LCD of 3 and 4)

STEP 2: Multiply as needed to get the common denominators

**(Remember whatever you do to the top you must to do the bottom)

EX: $\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{4}{4} = \frac{8}{12}$ & $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{3} = \frac{3}{12}$

STEP 3: Subtract your new fractions (numerator minus numerator)

EX: $\frac{8}{12} - \frac{3}{12} = \frac{5}{12}$

STEP 4: Denominator stays the same

ALWAYS REDUCE IF POSSIBLE