

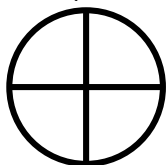
Comparing Fractions

An important part of learning fractions comes from the ability to compare the values of given fractions.

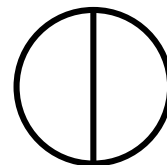
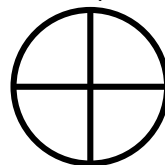
Vocabulary	
Fraction	Part of a whole.
Numerator	The top number of a fraction that represents the number of pieces you have.
Denominator	The bottom number of a fraction that represents the total amount of pieces in the whole.
Equivalent	Two fractions that have different numerators and denominators, but are the same value.

Important!

Any time you compare fractions you need to make sure the size of your **whole** is the same.

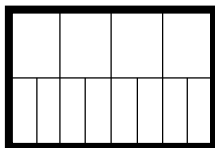
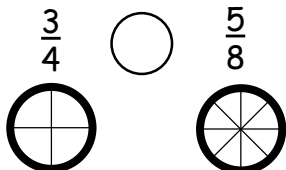


Which of the model pairs will give you the most accurate comparisons?



Comparing With Models

By drawing two models that are the same size, you can compare two fractions to help you compare their values.



Try it!

$\frac{2}{4} \bigcirc$

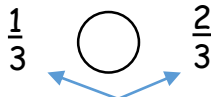
$\frac{4}{8}$

$\frac{2}{3} \bigcirc$

$\frac{7}{8}$

Comparing With Numerators

If the **denominators** of the fraction are the **same**, you can look at the **numerator** to determine which fraction has the **most pieces**.



If the denominators are the same, the fraction with the biggest numerator is larger.

Try it!

$\frac{2}{4} \bigcirc$

$\frac{1}{4}$

$\frac{3}{6} \bigcirc$

$\frac{4}{6}$

$\frac{5}{5} \bigcirc$

$\frac{2}{5}$

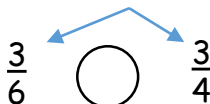
$\frac{2}{8} \bigcirc$

$\frac{6}{8}$

The denominators are the same, which means the both have the same size of pieces.

Comparing With Denominators

If the **numerators** of the fraction are the **same**, you can use the **denominators** to determine which fraction has the **larger pieces**.



The denominators tell us the size of the pieces. The **smaller** the number, the **bigger** the pieces.

Try it!

$\frac{2}{3} \bigcirc$

$\frac{2}{5}$

$\frac{3}{3} \bigcirc$

$\frac{3}{6}$

$\frac{5}{10} \bigcirc$

$\frac{5}{6}$

$\frac{1}{2} \bigcirc$

$\frac{1}{4}$

The numerators are the same, which means the both have the same number of pieces.

