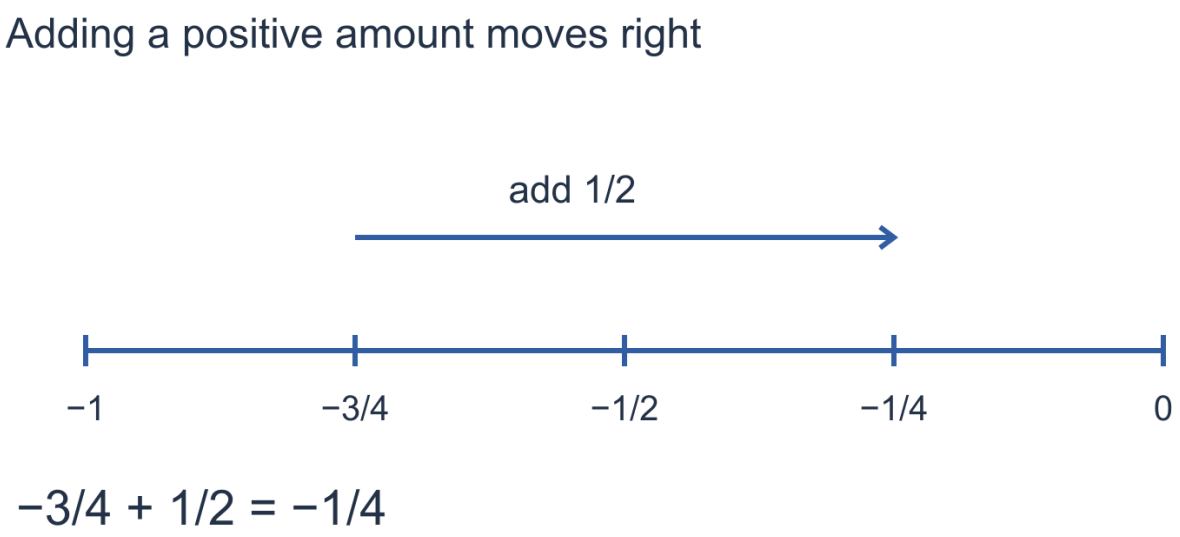
Adding negative fractions: keep the sign and the unit

Grade 7 · Practice and answer pack

A temperature rises by half a degree from −3/4°C. It is still below zero. A positive change need not produce a positive final value.

To add or subtract rational numbers, use a common denominator and keep each sign. Subtracting a number means adding its opposite.

Independent BananaLearn resource. Not an official exam paper or endorsed assessment.



On a number line, start at negative three quarters and move two quarter-steps right to negative one quarter.

Matching complete guide

bananalearn.com/learn/grade-7-adding-subtracting-rational-numbers.html

Try before looking at the answers

Name (optional): _____ Date: _____

Show your method or explain your choice. Work through a short group at a time. Questions are original practice, not a complete syllabus assessment.

1. −1/3 + 5/6

2. 3/4 − (−1/8)

3. −7/10 + 2/5

4. −1/2 − (−3/4)

5. Does −2/3 + 2/3 equal −4/6?

6. −2/3 + 1/6

7. 1/5 − 3/10

8. −3/8 − (−1/4)

9. −4/9 + (−2/3)

10. 5/12 − (−7/18)

11. Find x: x + 2/5 = −1/10.

12. Which is larger: −2/3 or −3/4?

13. Does 2/−5 + 2/5 equal zero?

Answers and reasoning

Compare the explanation as well as the answer. If a method is unclear, revisit the matching guide and try a changed example.

1. −1/3 + 5/6

1/2

−2/6 + 5/6 = 3/6.

2. 3/4 − (−1/8)

7/8

6/8 + 1/8 = 7/8.

3. −7/10 + 2/5

−3/10

−7/10 + 4/10 = −3/10.

4. −1/2 − (−3/4)

1/4

−2/4 + 3/4 = 1/4.

5. Does −2/3 + 2/3 equal −4/6?

No; it equals 0

A number and its opposite cancel.

6. −2/3 + 1/6

−1/2

−4/6+1/6=−3/6.

7. 1/5 − 3/10

−1/10

2/10−3/10=−1/10.

8. −3/8 − (−1/4)

−1/8

−3/8+2/8=−1/8.

9. −4/9 + (−2/3)

−10/9

−4/9−6/9=−10/9.

10. 5/12 − (−7/18)

29/36

15/36+14/36=29/36.

11. Find x: x + 2/5 = −1/10.

−1/2

Subtract 4/10 from both sides.

12. Which is larger: −2/3 or −3/4?

−2/3

−8/12 is to the right of −9/12.

13. Does 2/−5 + 2/5 equal zero?

Yes

2/−5 = −2/5; the two numbers are opposites.

Check understanding

• Did you preserve the value when changing denominators?

• What does subtraction of this signed number mean?

• Does the result lie on the expected side of zero?