







Understanding Fractions

Fractions are PARTS of a WHOLE. The WHOLE is **always** divided into EQUAL parts.

<p>One part is colored; two equal parts; <u>one half.</u></p>		$\frac{1}{2}$	<p>Two parts are colored; two equal parts; <u>two halves</u> OR <u>one whole.</u></p>		$\frac{2}{2} = 1$
<p>One part is colored; four equal parts; <u>one fourth.</u></p>		$\frac{1}{4}$	<p>Two parts are colored; five equal parts, <u>two fifths.</u></p>		$\frac{2}{5}$
<p>Three colored parts; seven equal parts; <u>three sevenths.</u></p>		$\frac{3}{7}$	<p>Can you tell what fraction this is?</p>		



The number ABOVE the line tells **HOW MANY PARTS** are colored. It *enumerates* or *counts* the colored parts.

$\frac{3}{8}$ NUMERATOR
 DENOMINATOR

The number BELOW the line tells **WHAT KIND OF PARTS** the whole is divided into. It *denominates* or *names* the parts.

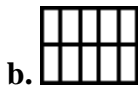
We use ordinal numbers to name the fractional parts.

“three eighths”

1. Color the parts to illustrate the fraction.



$\frac{7}{8}$



$\frac{6}{10}$



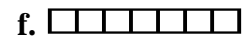
$\frac{4}{6}$



$\frac{4}{5}$



$\frac{2}{4}$



$\frac{4}{7}$



$\frac{2}{6}$



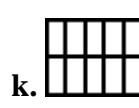
$\frac{11}{12}$



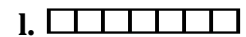
$\frac{5}{9}$



$\frac{1}{5}$



$\frac{9}{10}$



$\frac{2}{7}$