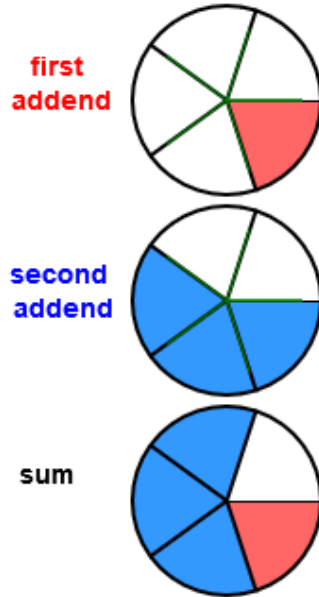


HOW TO ADD FRACTIONS

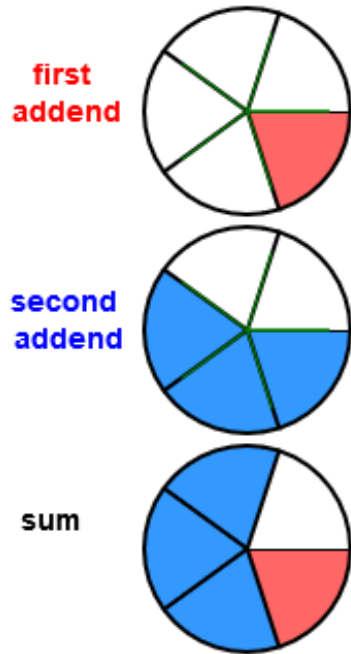
Introducing:

- first addend
- second addend
- sum



$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \frac{1}{5} & + & \frac{3}{5} & = & & = & \frac{4}{5} \\ \text{first addend} & & \text{second addend} & & & & \text{Simplify} \end{array}$$

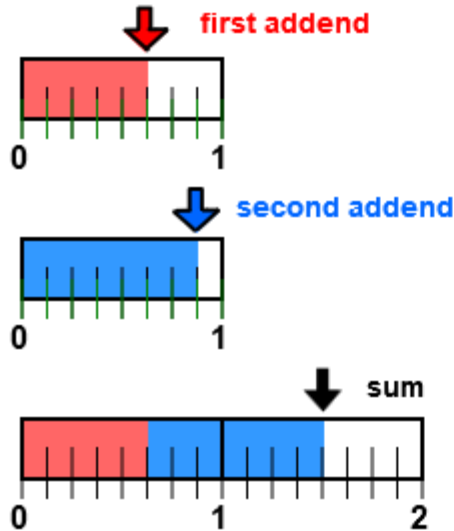
Add Fractions 2



$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \frac{1}{5} & + & \frac{3}{5} & = & \frac{(1+3)}{5} & = & \frac{4}{5} \\ \text{first addend} & & \text{second addend} & & \text{Add numerators.} & & \text{Simplify} \end{array}$$

$\frac{1}{5}$ and $\frac{3}{5}$ are like fractions because the denominators are the same. When the *addend* denominators are the same, add the numerators to get the numerator of the *sum*.

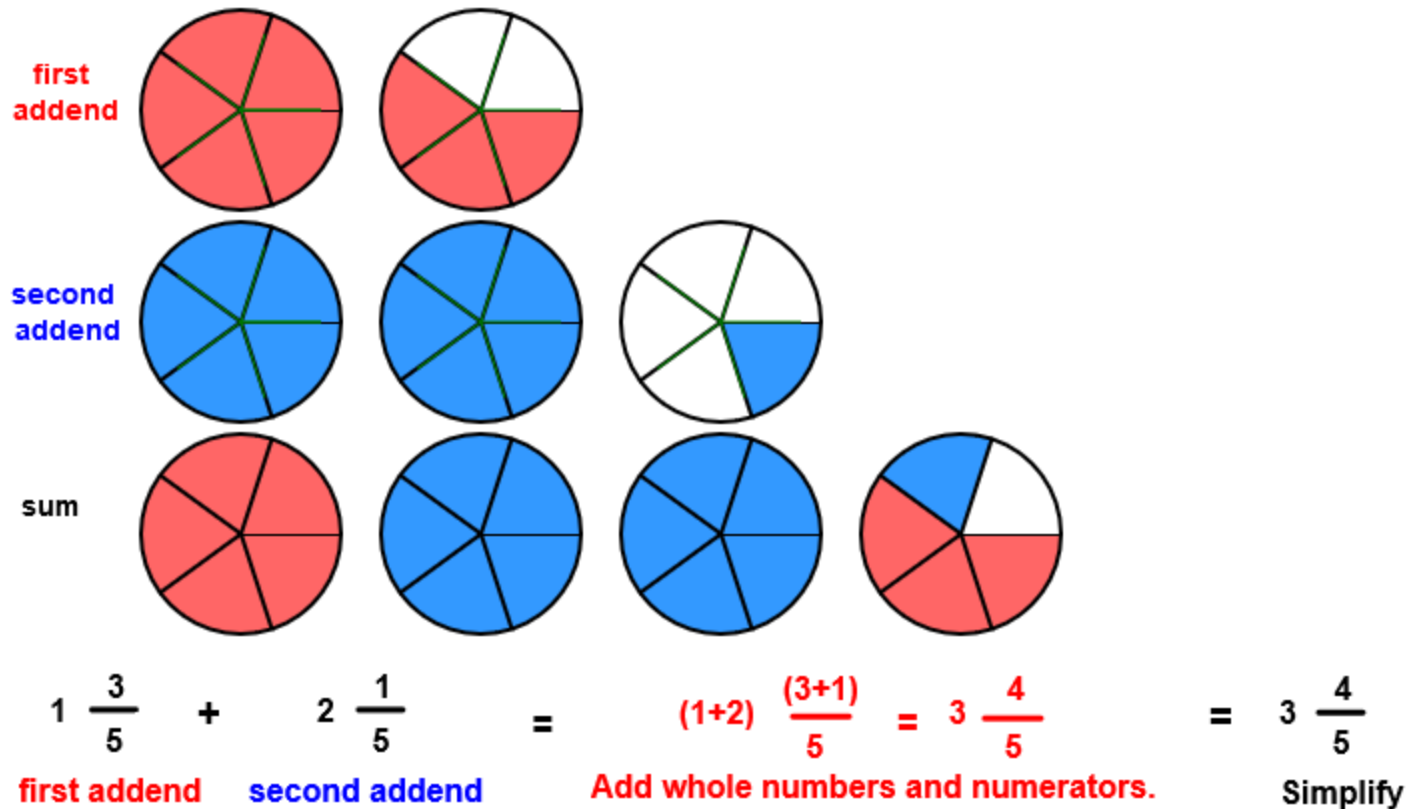
Add Fractions 3



$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \frac{5}{8} & + & \frac{7}{8} & = & \frac{(5+7)}{8} & = & \frac{12}{8} & = & 1 \frac{1}{2} \\ \text{first addend} & & \text{second addend} & & \text{Add numerators.} & & & & \text{Simplify} \end{array}$$

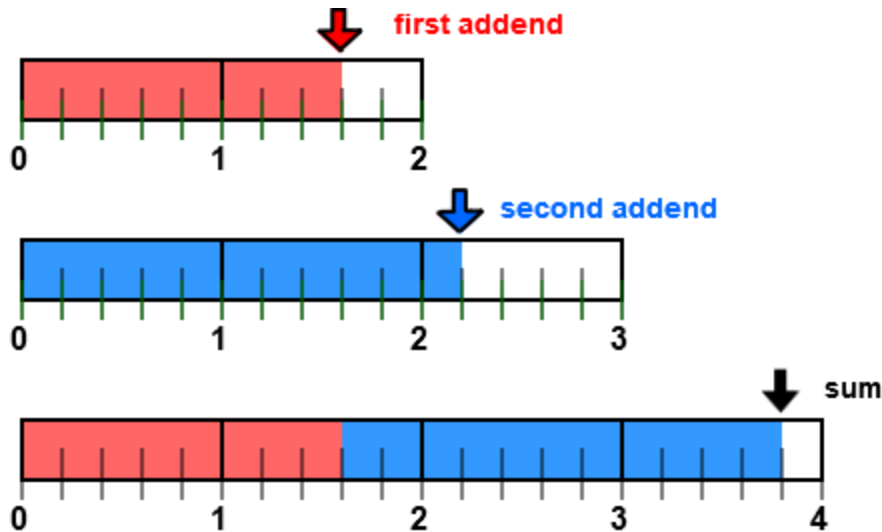
The *sum* $\frac{12}{8}$ is written as a mixed number in lowest terms. The numerals $\frac{12}{8}$ and $1 \frac{1}{2}$ are correct names for the *sum* of $\frac{5}{8}$ and $\frac{7}{8}$.

Add Fractions 4



Here, mixed numbers are added. The whole number 1 in $1 \frac{3}{5}$ is added to the whole number 2 in $2 \frac{1}{5}$ for a whole number 3 in the *sum*. The fractions $\frac{3}{5}$ and $\frac{1}{5}$ are added for the $\frac{4}{5}$ in the *sum*.

Add Fractions 5

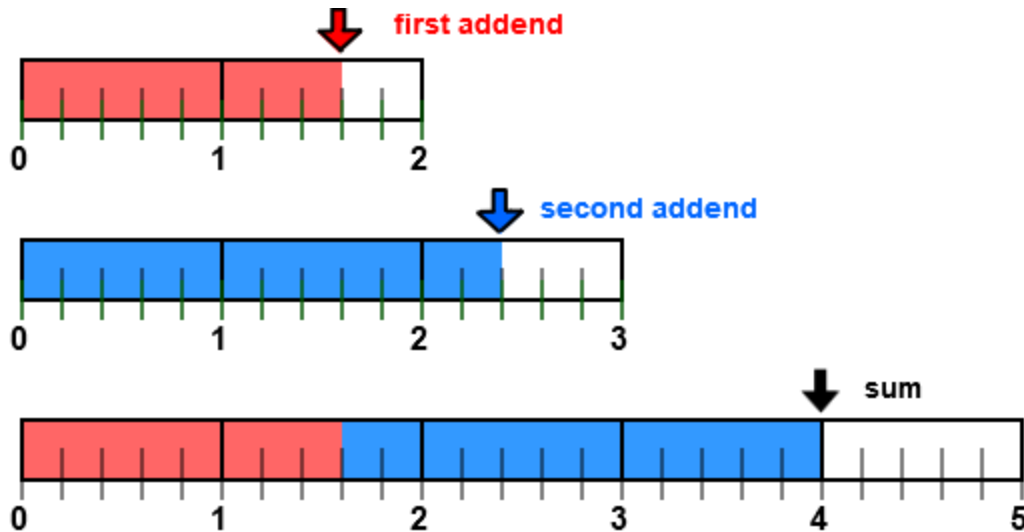


$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 \frac{3}{5} & + & 2 \frac{1}{5} & = & (1+2) \frac{(3+1)}{5} & = & 3 \frac{4}{5} \\ \text{first addend} & & \text{second addend} & & \text{Add whole numbers and numerators.} & & \text{Simplify} \end{array}$$

The same example $1 \frac{3}{5}$ plus $2 \frac{1}{5}$ is shown with number lines. Add the whole numbers and then the fractions:

$$1 \frac{3}{5} + 2 \frac{1}{5} = (1+2) + \left(\frac{3}{5} + \frac{1}{5}\right) = 3 \frac{4}{5}.$$

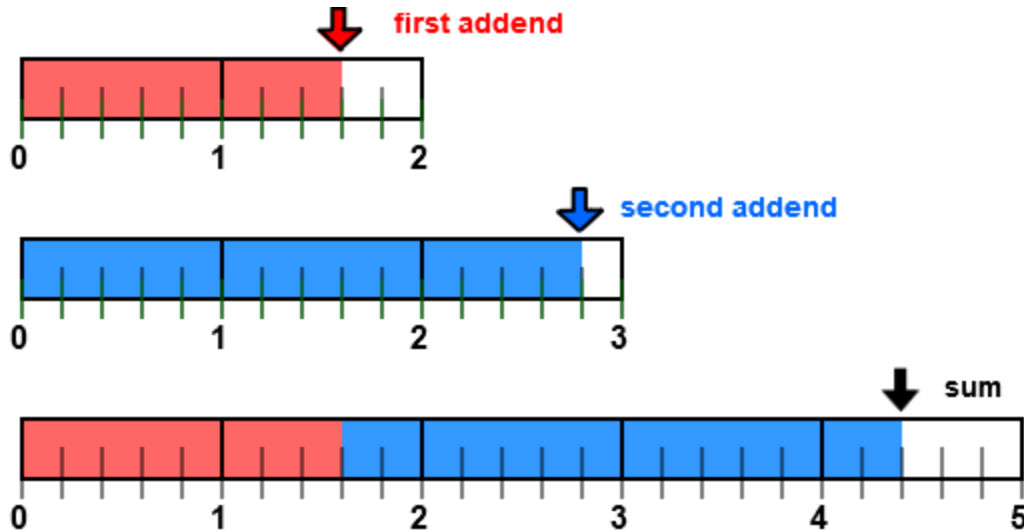
Add Fractions 6



$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} 1 \frac{3}{5} & + & 2 \frac{2}{5} & = & (1+2) \frac{(3+2)}{5} & = & 3 \frac{5}{5} & = & 4 \\ \text{first addend} & & \text{second addend} & & \text{Add whole numbers and numerators.} & & & & \text{Simplify} \end{array}$$

This example shows the *sum* $3 \frac{5}{5}$ written as 4. Since the fraction $\frac{5}{5}$ is equal to 1, $3 \frac{5}{5}$ is equal to $3 + 1$ for a *sum* of 4

Add Fractions 7

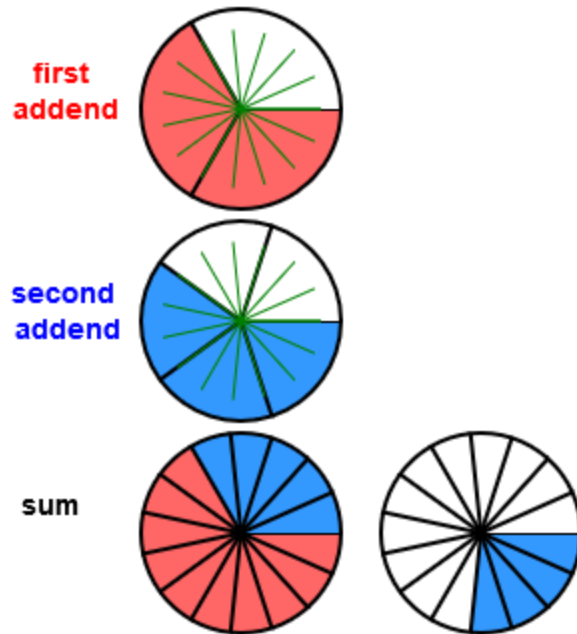


$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 1 \frac{3}{5} & + & 2 \frac{4}{5} & = & (1+2) \frac{(3+4)}{5} & = & 3 \frac{7}{5} & = & 4 \frac{2}{5} \\
 \text{first addend} & & \text{second addend} & & \text{Add whole numbers and numerators.} & & & & \text{Simplify}
 \end{array}$$

This example shows the *sum* $3 \frac{7}{5}$ written as $4 \frac{2}{5}$. The $\frac{7}{5}$ part of the *sum* can be renamed as $1 \frac{2}{5}$. The 1 in $1 \frac{2}{5}$ is added to the whole number 3 for the 4 in $4 \frac{2}{5}$:

$$1 \frac{3}{5} + 2 \frac{4}{5} = 3 \frac{7}{5} = 3 + 1 \frac{2}{5} = 4 \frac{2}{5}.$$

Add Fractions 8

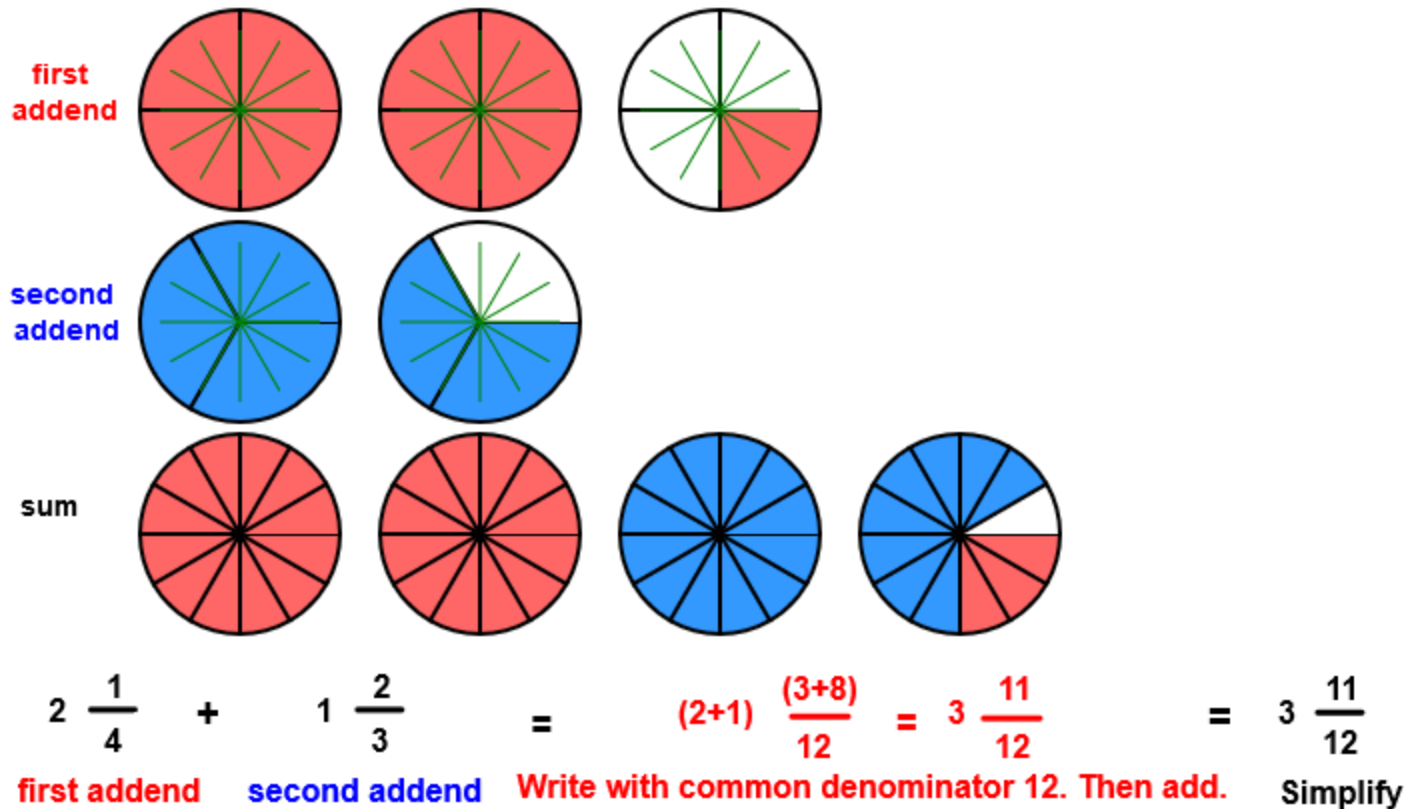


$$\frac{2}{3} + \frac{3}{5} = \frac{(10+9)}{15} = \frac{19}{15} = 1 \frac{4}{15}$$

first addend **second addend** **Write with common denominator 15. Then add.** **Simplify**

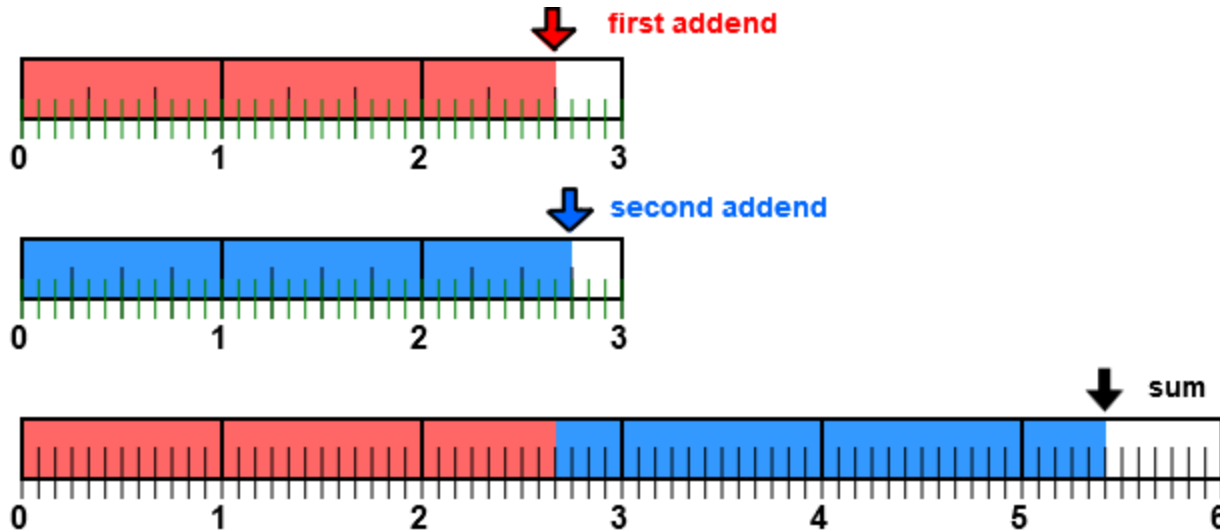
The *addends* $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{5}$ are unlike fractions. Each addend is written with the common denominator 15 before the numerators are added, giving a *sum* of $\frac{19}{15}$ or $1 \frac{4}{15}$.

Add Fractions 9



The unlike fractions $2\frac{1}{4}$ and $1\frac{2}{3}$ are renamed as like fractions $2\frac{3}{12}$ and $1\frac{8}{12}$. Then the whole numbers and numerators are added for a sum of $3\frac{11}{12}$.

Add Fractions 10

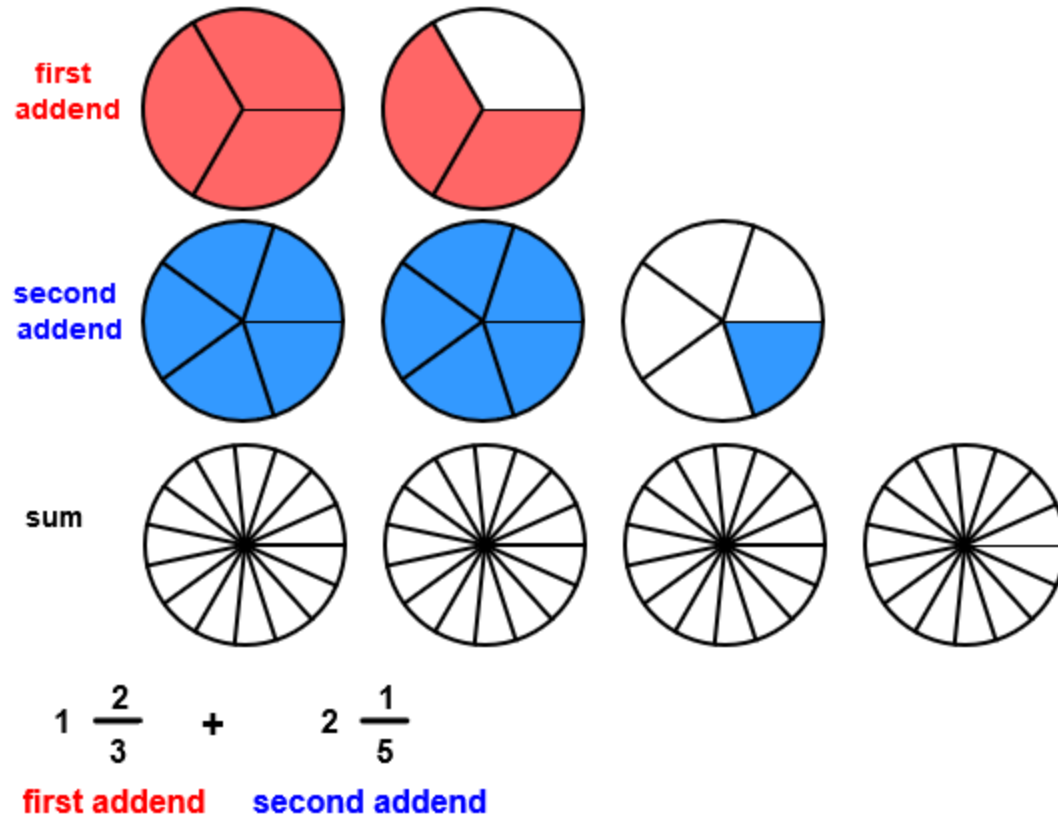


$$2 \frac{2}{3} + 2 \frac{3}{4} = (2+2) \frac{(8+9)}{12} = 4 \frac{17}{12} = 5 \frac{5}{12}$$

first addend second addend Write with common denominator 12. Then add. Simplify

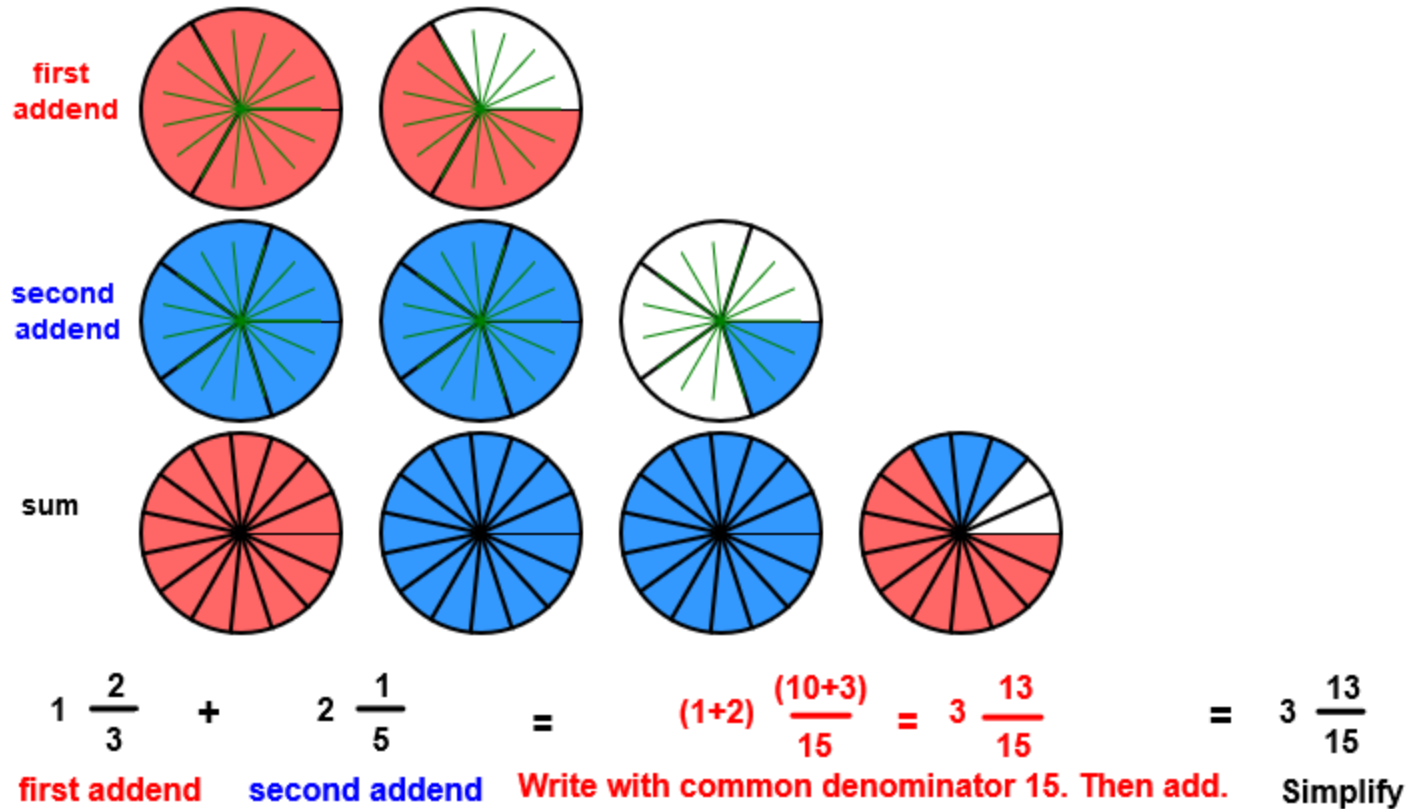
Write each *addend* with a common denominator 12. Because $\frac{17}{12}$ can be written as $1\frac{5}{12}$, we can write the sum $4\frac{17}{12}$ as $5\frac{5}{12}$.

Add Fractions 11



What is the sum of $1 \frac{2}{3}$ and $2 \frac{1}{5}$

Add Fractions 12



To find the sum from the picture, color the whole number parts of each addend onto the sum. So the first circle and the second and third circles will be colored in. Then color the fraction parts $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{5}$ onto the sum circles for a sum of $3 \frac{13}{15}$. The illustration shows how the sum is calculated.