Vocabulary: Dividing Fractions

dictionary2

**Vocabulary**

* Dividend – the number being divided in a division problem.
* For example, in the quotient  ÷  = , the dividend is .
* Divisor – the number by which the dividend is divided in a division problem
* For example, in the quotient  ÷  = , the divisor is .
* Fraction – a number that shows the relationship between a part and a whole.
  + A fraction consists of a *denominator* (bottom number) and a *numerator* (top number).
  + An *improper fraction* has a numerator that is greater than or equal to its denominator.
  + An improper fraction can be written as a *mixed number* – a whole number combined with a fraction.
* Quotient – the result of division.
  + For example, the quotient of  and  is , because  ÷  = .
* Reciprocal – the result of switching the numerator and denominator of a fraction.
  + For example,  and  are reciprocals.
  + The product of a number and its reciprocal is always 1.
* Simplify – to reduce in complexity.
  + A simplified fraction is equivalent (equal) to the original fraction but has all common factors divided out of the numerator and denominator.
  + For example,  can be simplified to  by dividing the numerator and denominator by 6.
  + A fraction is in *simplest form* when the only factor the numerator and denominator have in common is 1.
* For example,  and  are in simplest form.