

Fractions

How do I multiply a whole number with a fraction?

- The whole number must be rewritten so that it looks like a fraction.

You can make any whole number look like a fraction by writing a denominator of 1 underneath it.

Example

Without altering the value of the whole number 5, turn it into a fraction.

$$5 \text{ becomes } \frac{5}{1}$$

Now let's use that idea to help us multiply a whole number with a fraction.

Example

6 must be changed to look like a common fraction.

6 becomes the fraction: 6/1.

$$\begin{aligned} & 6 \times \frac{1}{2} = ? \\ & \frac{6}{1} \times \frac{1}{2} = ? \\ & \frac{\cancel{6}^3}{1} \times \frac{1}{\cancel{2}_1} = ? \\ & \frac{3 \times 1}{1 \times 1} = ? \\ & = \frac{3}{1} \\ & = \boxed{3} \end{aligned}$$