

Warm-up:

$$1) \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{4} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$2) \frac{2}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{5} + \frac{1}{10} = \frac{4}{10} + \frac{1}{10} = \frac{5}{10} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$3) \frac{3}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{10} + \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{5}{5} = \frac{9}{30} + \frac{5}{30} = \frac{14}{30} = \boxed{\frac{7}{15}}$$

ADD AND SUBTRACT RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS

HOW DO I ADD AND SUBTRACT RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS?

Steps:

- D** • 1. Factor Denominator (LCD)
 - 2. Get a Common Denominator
 - N** • 3. Add/Sub Numerator } multiply
combine terms
factor
 - 4. Re-write Denominator
 - S** • 5. Simplify your answer
- LAST step ONLY!

EX. ADD OR SUBTRACT.

1. $\frac{5}{6x^2} + \frac{x}{4x^2 - 12x}$

LCD: $12x^2(x-3)$

D

$$\frac{2 \cdot 5 \cdot (x-3)}{2 \cdot 6x^2(x-3)} + \frac{3x \cdot x}{3x \cdot 4x(x-3)}$$

N

$$\frac{10(x-3) + 3x^2}{LCD} = \frac{10x - 30 + 3x^2}{LCD}$$

$$= \frac{3x^2 + 10x - 30}{LCD} = \frac{\cancel{(x-3)}\cancel{(x+1)}}{LCD}$$

S

$$\frac{3x^2 + 10x - 30}{12x^2(x-3)}$$

EX. ADD OR SUBTRACT.

2. $\frac{x^2 + 3x - 6}{(x^2 - 2x - 3)} - \frac{3}{(x-3)}$

LCD: $(x-3)(x+1)$

D

$$\frac{x^2 + 3x - 6}{(x-3)(x+1)} - \frac{3(x+1)}{(x-3)(x+1)}$$

N

$$\frac{x^2 + 3x - 6 - 3(x+1)}{LCD} = \frac{x^2 + 3x - 6 - 3x - 3}{LCD}$$

$$= \frac{x^2 - 9}{LCD} = \frac{(x+3)(x-3)}{LCD}$$

S

$$\frac{(x+3)\cancel{(x-3)}}{\cancel{(x-3)}(x+1)} = \frac{x+3}{x+1}$$

EX. ADD OR SUBTRACT.

• 3. $\frac{x+18}{x^2-3x} + \frac{x+4}{3-x}$ LCD: $x(x-3)$

D $\frac{x+18}{x(x-3)} + \frac{x(x+4)}{x(x-3)}$

N $\frac{x+18-x(x+4)}{LCD} = \frac{x+18-x^2-4x}{LCD} = \frac{-x^2-3x+18}{LCD}$
 $= \frac{-(x^2+3x-18)}{LCD} = \frac{-(x+6)(x-3)}{LCD}$

S $\frac{-(x+6)(x-3)}{x(x-3)} = \frac{-(x+6)}{x}$ OR $\frac{-x-6}{x}$

EX. ADD OR SUBTRACT.

• 4. $\frac{10x}{3x^2-3} + \frac{4}{x-1} + \frac{5}{6x}$ LCD: $6x(x+1)(x-1)$

D $\frac{2x \cdot 10x}{2x \cdot 3(x^2-1)} + \frac{6x \cdot 4(x+1)}{6x(x-1)(x+1)} + \frac{5(x^2-1)}{6x(x^2-1)}$

N $\frac{20x^2+24x(x+1)+5(x^2-1)}{LCD} = \frac{20x^2+24x^2+24x+5x^2-5}{LCD}$

S $\frac{49x^2+24x-5}{6x(x+1)(x-1)}$ ← this cannot factor!
 ← it's OK to multiply denominator, but why bother?!