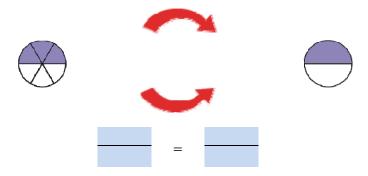
Practicing With Simplifying Fractions

Simplify the fraction:



In this example we find that the fraction is 3/6 (from the figure) is not the simplest fraction. We can reduce the fraction into its simple fraction ½ by dividing numerator and denominator by 3. This process is called simplifying.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \div & 3 \\
 & \underline{3} & = & \underline{1} \\
 & 6 & & 2
\end{array}$$

In simplification both the numerator and denominator change into smaller numbers, but the value of the fraction does not.

The simplest fraction is built by lowest terms, which can't be reduced to lower one.

Answer: $\frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$

Practice problem.