

Subtraction of a Fraction from a Whole Number



To subtract whole numbers and Fractions, we have to follow the steps given below:

Step 1: Convert the whole number to a fraction. To do this, give the whole number a denominator of 1.

Step 2: Convert to fractions of like denominators. The original fraction's denominator is also the least common denominator (LCD) of the two fractions. Multiply the top and bottom of the "whole number fraction" by this number so the fractions have the same denominator.

Step 3: Subtract the numerators. Now that the fractions have the same denominators, you can treat the numerators as a normal subtraction problem.

Step 4: If your answer is an improper fraction, you may need to rewrite it as a mixed number.



Let us understand with an example:

Example: Subtract $2 - \frac{1}{2}$.

Solution: Convert the whole number "2" into the fractional form as " $\frac{2}{1}$ ".

$$\text{Therefore, } 2 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{1} - \frac{1}{2}$$

Now, take the LCM of 1 and 2.

The LCM of 1 and 2 is 2.

$$\frac{2}{1} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{4}{2} - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{2}{1} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{4-1}{2}$$

$$\frac{2}{1} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\text{Therefore, } 2 - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$$