**Convert Fractions to Percents**

**Divide the top of the fraction by the bottom, multiply by 100 and add a "%" sign.**

**The simplest method is to use a calculator:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| http://www.mathsisfun.com/images/calculator.gif | Steps:* Divide the top of the fraction by the bottom,
* Then multiply the result by 100 and read off the answer !
 |

**Example: What is 5/8 as a percent?**

Get your calculator and type in "5 ÷ 8 =", the calculator should show 0.625, then multiply by 100 and your answer is: **62.5%** (remember to put the "%" so people know it is "per 100")

Of course you can do the division in your head or on paper if you don't have a calculator!

**Another Method**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Percent means "per 100", so try to change the fraction to  | ? |  form |
|  |
| 100 |

**Follow these steps:**

|  |
| --- |
| Step 1: Find a number you can multiply the **bottom of the fraction** by to get 100. |
| Step 2: Multiply both top and bottom of the fraction by that number. |
| Step 3. Then write down just the top number with the "%" sign. |

**Example 1: Express 3/4 as a Percent**

Step 1: We can multiply 4 by **25** to become 100

Step 2: Multiply top and bottom by 25:

|  |
| --- |
| **×25** |
| http://www.mathsisfun.com/images/left-up-over-arrow.gif |
| **3** | **=** | **75** |
|  |  |
| **4** | **100** |
| http://www.mathsisfun.com/images/left-under-over-arrow.gif |
| **×25** |

Step 3: Write down 75 with the percent sign:

**Answer = 75%**

**Example 2: Express 3/16 as a Percent**

Step 1: We have to multiply 16 by 6.25 to become 100

Step 2: Multiply top and bottom by 6.25:

|  |
| --- |
| **×6.25** |
| http://www.mathsisfun.com/images/left-up-over-arrow.gif |
| **3** | **=** | **18.75** |
|  |  |
| **16** | **100** |
| http://www.mathsisfun.com/images/left-under-over-arrow.gif |
| **×6.25** |

Step 3: Write down 18.75 with the percentage sign:

**Answer = 18.75%**

**Yet Another Method**

Because a percent is actually a ratio (parts per 100) we can also use [Proportions](http://www.mathsisfun.com/algebra/proportions.html) to do the conversion.

First, put what you know into this form:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Top of Fraction | **=** | Percent |
|  |  |
| Bottom of Fraction | 100 |

Then solve using **"multiply across the known corners, divide by the third number"**:

**Example: convert 3/16 to percent**

Fill in what you know:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 3 | **=** | Percent |
|  |  |
| 16 | 100 |

Multiply across the known corners, then divide by the third number. The "known corners" are top left and bottom right:

Percent = (3 × 100) / 16 = 300 / 16 = **18.75%**

Answer: 3/16 is **18.75%** (just like the previous example!)