Adding and Subtracting Fractions with Like Denominators

Like fractions are fractions that have the same denominator. Since $\frac{3}{6}$ and $\frac{1}{6}$ both have denominator 6, they are **like fractions**. When the denominators are the same, it is easy to add or subtract the fractions.

Example 1: $\frac{2}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \boxed{}$
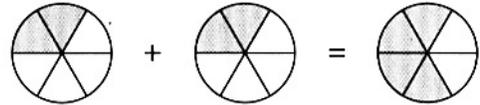
    Step 1: Add the numerators. $2 + 2 = 4$

    Step 2: Write the same denominator. $\frac{4}{6}$

    Step 3: Reduce to simplest form. $\frac{4}{6} = \frac{4 \div 2}{6 \div 2} = \frac{2}{3}$

So, $\frac{2}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$.

Example 2: $\frac{6}{8} - \frac{2}{8} = \boxed{}$
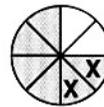
    Step 1: Subtract the numerators. $6 - 2 = 4$

    Step 2: Write the same denominator. $\frac{4}{8}$

    Step 3: Reduce to simplest form. $\frac{4}{8} = \frac{4 \div 4}{8 \div 4} = \frac{1}{2}$

So, $\frac{6}{8} - \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{2}$.

(Directions)

Add or subtract. Reduce to simplest form.

1. $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{\boxed{}}{6} = \frac{\boxed{}}{6} = \frac{\boxed{}}{\boxed{}}$

2. $\frac{7}{9} - \frac{4}{9} = \frac{\boxed{}}{9} = \frac{\boxed{}}{9} = \frac{\boxed{}}{\boxed{}}$

3. $\frac{1}{6} + \frac{2}{6}$ 4. $\frac{3}{5} - \frac{2}{5}$ 5. $\frac{1}{3} + \frac{2}{3}$ 6. $\frac{9}{12} - \frac{1}{12}$

7. $\frac{4}{9} - \frac{2}{9}$ 8. $\frac{5}{12} + \frac{11}{12}$ 9. $\frac{6}{8} - \frac{4}{8}$ 10. $\frac{5}{8} + \frac{7}{8}$

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Answer Key

1. $1 + 2$; 3; $\frac{1}{2}$
2. $7 - 4$; 3; $\frac{1}{3}$
3. $\frac{1}{2}$
4. $\frac{1}{5}$
5. 1
6. $\frac{2}{3}$
7. $\frac{2}{9}$
8. $1\frac{1}{3}$
9. $\frac{1}{4}$
10. $1\frac{1}{2}$

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