Fractions in Lowest Terms

When you want to put a fraction in lowest terms it means you ÷ both the numerator and denominator by the same number to take the fraction down to a place where both #'s are only divisible by 1.

Ex: $\frac{4}{10}$ Both numbers can be ½ by 2 so this fraction is not in lowest terms

$\frac{4 \div 2}{10 \div 2} = \frac{2}{5}$ ← Now my fraction is in lowest terms because the only number you can ÷ both numbers by is "1".

Two rules:

(1.) When the numerator is EXACTLY ½ of the denominator, then that fraction can be written as $\frac{1}{2}$ ← Lowest terms

Ex: $\left(\frac{4}{8} = \frac{1}{2}\right)$, $\left(\frac{10}{20} = \frac{1}{2}\right)$, $\left(\frac{8}{16} = \frac{1}{2}\right)$

(2.) If you can divide the denominator by the numerator evenly, then that is the GCF to take the fraction to its lowest terms. →

An Example of this is:

(4) $\frac{6}{18}$ 18 can be ÷ by 6 Evenly

$\frac{6}{18} \div 6 = \frac{1}{3}$ ← This is in its lowest terms

(8) $\frac{5}{15}$ 15 can be ÷ evenly by 5

$\frac{5}{15} \div 5 = \frac{1}{3}$ ← This is in lowest terms