

Proof a Day — 2026

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2026-01-01

Division

Theorem 1.1. *If $a|c$ and $b|c$ and $\gcd(a, b) = d$, then $ab|cd$. $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$*

Proof. As $d = \gcd(a, b)$, we have that $d = au + bv$ for some $u, v \in \mathbb{Z}$. We now have that $cd = c(au + bv) = cau + cbv$. Since $a|c$ and $b|c$, $c = ax = by$ for some $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. Substituting c results in $cd = cau + cbv = (by)au + (ax)bv = (ab)(yu + xv)$. As $u, v, x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$, $yu + xv \in \mathbb{Z}$. By definition of divisibility, $ab|cd$. \square