



Determining Quantities with Ratios

About These Problems

Ratios are another way of representing fractions. Instead ratios represent one quantity to another. Find the scale factor which is what the ratio multiplied by will yield the actual original number and solve for the missing quantity.

Question. At a certain animal shelter the ratio dogs to cats is 2:3. How many cats are there if there are 48 dogs.

1. 72
2. 80
3. 120
4. 64
5. 100

Answer. 1: The scale factor for this ratio is 24 as it is 48 dogs divided by 2. Multiply 24 by 3 to yield the number of cats.