# Solving Proportions



## **Vocabulary**

#### Review

Write each unit rate in words.

**1.** 65 mi/h

sixty-five

per

**2.** 7 ft/day

- seven
- per

**3.** \$3.99/lb

- three dollars ninety-nine
- per

**4.** 11 km/s

- eleven
- per

### Vocabulary Builder

proportion (noun) pruh PAWR shun

**Definition:** A **proportion** is an equation that states that two ratios are equal.

A **proportion** always has an **equal sign**.

$$\frac{1}{5} = \frac{6}{30}$$

**What It Means:** Any equation of the form  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$ , where  $b \neq 0$  and  $d \neq 0$ , is a **proportion**. You read a proportion "a is to b as c is to d."

Related Word: proportional (adjective)

### Use Your Vocabulary

Complete each statement with the correct word from the list below.

- proportion
- ratios
- proportional
- **5.** A scaled map of the roads in a city is <u>?</u> to the actual roads.
- **6.** When making fruit punch, you have to be sure that the amount of ginger ale is in \_?\_ to the amount of fruit juice.
- **7.** Because  $\frac{5}{8}$  is not equal to  $\frac{15}{20}$ , the  $\underline{\phantom{0}}$ ,  $\frac{5}{8}$  and  $\frac{15}{20}$  do not form a proportion.



### **Problem 1** Solving a Proportion Using the Multiplication Property

## **Got lt?** What is the solution of the proportion $\frac{x}{7} = \frac{4}{5}$ ?

**8.** Use the justifications at the right to solve the proportion.

$$\frac{x}{7} = \frac{4}{5}$$

Write the original equation.

$$\cdot \frac{x}{7} = \cdot \frac{4}{5}$$

 $\frac{x}{7} = \frac{4}{5}$  Multiply each side by .

$$=\frac{28}{5}$$
 Simplify.

$$x =$$

Divide.

In the proportion  $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$ , the products ad and bc are called cross products. You can use the following property of cross products to solve proportions.

## ake note

### **Property** Cross Products Property of a Proportion

9. Complete the table.

Words	The cross products of a proportion are equal.	
Algebra	If $\frac{a}{b} = \frac{c}{d}$ , where $b \neq 0$ and $d \neq 0$ , then $ad = \frac{c}{d}$ .	
Example	$\frac{2}{3} = \frac{8}{12}$ , so $2 \cdot $ = $3 \cdot $ , or $24 = $ .	



### Problem 2 Solving a Proportion Using the Cross Products Property

## **Got lt?** What is the solution of the proportion $\frac{y}{3} = \frac{3}{5}$ ?

**10.** Use the model to help you find the cross products.

**11.** Solve the proportion  $\frac{y}{3} = \frac{3}{5}$ .

## **Got lt?** What is the solution of the proportion $\frac{n}{5} = \frac{2n+4}{6}$ ?

**12.** Complete the reasoning model below.

Think	Write
First I write the original proportion.	
Next I use the Cross Products Property.	( )n = 5( )
Then I use the Distributive Property.	$\cdot n = 10 \cdot $ +
I subtract 10 <i>n</i> from each side.	6 <i>n</i> - = 10 <i>n</i> + -
I simplify both sides.	· n =
Now I divide each side by $-4$ .	<u>-4</u> = <u>-4</u>
Finally, I simplify.	n =

When you model a real-world situation with a proportion, you must write the proportion carefully. Be sure that the order of what is compared in each ratio is the same.

Correct: 
$$\frac{100 \text{ mi}}{2 \text{ h}} = \frac{x \text{ mi}}{5 \text{ h}}$$
 Incorrect:  $\frac{100 \text{ mi}}{2 \text{h}} = \frac{5 \text{ h}}{x \text{ mi}}$ 

**13.** Suppose you can buy 3 pounds of meat for \$12. Cross out the proportion below that will NOT help you find the cost of 5 pounds of meat.

$$\frac{12 \text{ dollars}}{3 \text{ lb}} = \frac{x \text{ dollars}}{5 \text{ lb}} \qquad \qquad \frac{12 \text{ dollars}}{3 \text{ lb}} = \frac{5 \text{ lb}}{x \text{ dollars}} \qquad \qquad \frac{3 \text{ lb}}{12 \text{ dollars}} = \frac{5 \text{ lb}}{x \text{ dollars}}$$

**14.** Suppose you need 9 pieces of wood to build 4 birdhouses. Cross out the proportion below that will NOT help you find the number of pieces of wood you will need to build 15 birdhouses.

$$\frac{15 \text{ birdhouses}}{x \text{ pieces}} = \frac{4 \text{ birdhouses}}{9 \text{ pieces}} \qquad \frac{9 \text{ pieces}}{4 \text{ birdhouses}} = \frac{x \text{ pieces}}{15 \text{ birdhouses}} \qquad \frac{9 \text{ pieces}}{15 \text{ birdhouses}} = \frac{x \text{ pieces}}{4 \text{ birdhouses}}$$

**15.** Suppose you can knit 3 scarves from 5 packages of yarn. Let x = the number of scarves you can knit from 12 packages of yarn. Complete the proportion.



**Got lt?** An 8-oz can of orange juice contains about 97 mg of vitamin C. About how many milligrams of vitamin C are there in a 12-oz can of orange juice?

- **16.** Let *c* =
- **17.** Circle the proportion you will use to solve this problem.

$$\frac{8 \text{ oz}}{12 \text{ oz}} = \frac{c \text{ mg}}{97 \text{ mg}}$$

$$\frac{12 \text{ oz}}{8 \text{ oz}} = \frac{c \text{ mg}}{97 \text{ mg}}$$

$$\frac{8 \text{ oz}}{97 \text{ mg}} = \frac{12 \text{ oz}}{c \text{ mg}}$$

$$\frac{12 \text{ oz}}{8 \text{ oz}} = \frac{97 \text{ mg}}{c \text{ mg}}$$

- **18.** Solve the problem using the proportion you chose.
- **19.** There are about mg of vitamin C in a 12-oz can of orange juice.



## **Lesson Check** • Do you UNDERSTAND?

**Reasoning** When solving  $\frac{x}{5} = \frac{3}{4}$ , Lisa's first step was to write 4x = 5(3). Jen's first step was to write  $20(\frac{x}{5}) = 20(\frac{3}{4})$ . Will both methods work? Explain.

**20.** Circle the property that Lisa used. Underline the property that Jen used.

**Multiplication Property** 

Cross Products Property

**21.** Solve: 4x = 5(3).

- **22.** Solve:  $20\left(\frac{x}{5}\right) = 20\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)$ .
- 23. Will both methods work? Explain.



#### **Math Success**

Check off the vocabulary words that you understand.

proportion

- cross products
- Cross Products Property

Rate how well you can solve proportions.

