

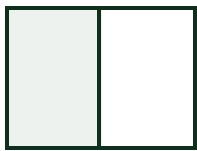


ANCHOR CHART · GRADE 5 · 5.NF.A.1

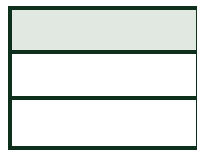
Adding Fractions, Unlike Denominators

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$$

1 Draw Both Fractions



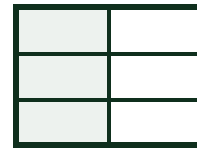
$\frac{1}{2}$ · cut up-and-down



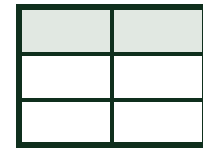
$\frac{1}{3}$ · cut side-to-side

Halves and thirds are **different-sized pieces** - you can't add them yet.

2 Copy Each Other's Cuts



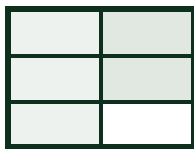
$$\frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{6}$$



$$\frac{1}{3} = \frac{2}{6}$$

Now both squares hold **sixths** - like units - and the shaded amounts never changed.

3 Add the Like Units



$$\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$$

Same-size pieces add like plain numbers: $3 + 2 = 5$ sixths.

4 Look Back

- The new fractions are **equivalent** to the ones you started with - same amount, smaller pieces.
- Denominators never add. They just name the piece size.
- Simplify if you can. $\frac{5}{6}$ is already in simplest form.

You can only add pieces that match.