

Converting fractions, decimals and percentages

Study Development Factsheet

Converting decimals to fractions

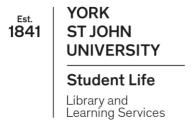
- 1. Look at the decimal you are trying to convert. Count how many values there are after the decimal point. We write the number of values as 'a'.
 - For example, 0.15 has 2 values after the decimal point, 0.005 has 3
 values after the decimal point, and 0.3 has an infinite amount of values after the decimal point, so we cannot use this method on 0.3.
- 2. Write the fraction as: $\frac{\text{decimal} \times 10^{a}}{10^{a}}$.
 - For example, 0.15 written as a fraction is $\frac{0.15 \times 10^2}{10^2} = \frac{15}{100}$, and 0.005 written as a fraction is $\frac{0.005 \times 10^3}{10^3} = \frac{5}{1000}$.
- 3. If you can, cancel down the fraction until it is in its simplest form.

- For example,
$$0.15 = \frac{15}{100} = \frac{3}{20}$$
, and $0.005 = \frac{5}{1000} = \frac{1}{200}$.

- 4. If there are an infinite number of (non-zero) values after the decimal point, we cannot use this method. Some decimals convert exactly into fractions, and you will need to remember some of these.
 - For example, $0.\dot{3} = \frac{1}{3}$, $0.\dot{6} = \frac{2}{3}$, $0.\dot{1}\dot{5} = \frac{1}{6}$.
 - Otherwise, sometimes we must settle for rounding the number and then converting it to a close, but slightly inaccurate fraction. For example, 0.14253... could be rounded to 0.1425, and then converted to give $\frac{1425}{10000} = \frac{57}{400}.$

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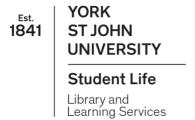
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Converting decimals to percentages

- 1. Multiply the decimal by 100.
 - For example, 0.23 can be written as $0.23 \times 100 = 23\%$, 1.5 can be written as $1.5 \times 100 = 150\%$, and 0.5245 can be written as 0.5245×100 = 52.45%.

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Converting percentages to decimals

- 1. Divide the percentage by 100.
 - For example, 55% can be written as $55 \div 100 = 0.55$, 187% can be written as $187 \div 100 = 1.87$, and 0.5% can be written as $0.5 \div 100 = 0.005$.

Converting percentages to fractions

- 1. Write the percentage as the numerator in a fraction over 100.
 - For example, write 86% as $\frac{86}{100}$.
- 2. Cancel down the fraction if possible.
 - For example, $\frac{86}{100} = \frac{43}{50}$.

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Converting fractions to decimals

- 1. Divide the numerator by the denominator. This may require a calculator.
 - For example, $\frac{2}{5} = 2 \div 5 = 0.4$.

Converting fractions to percentages

- 1. Convert the fraction into a decimal.
- 2. Convert the decimal into a percentage.

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