Adding fractions with different denominators.

$$\frac{3}{4} + \frac{2}{3}$$

1. Find the lowest common multiple of the denominators.

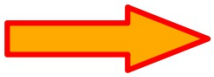
The LCM is a number in both the denominators times tables. In this case 4 and 3.

Can you think of a number in both the 3 and 4 times tables?

2. Rewrite the problem using the LCM. E.g.

$\frac{3}{4} \times 3 = \frac{9}{12}$

$\frac{2}{3} \times 4 = \frac{8}{12}$



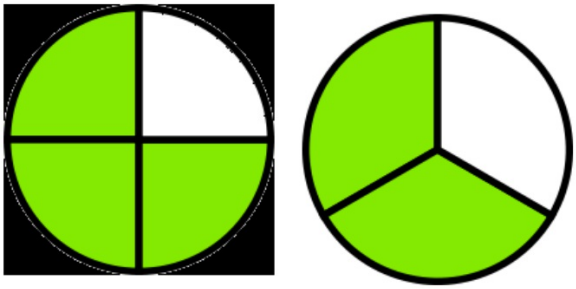
$\frac{9}{12} + \frac{8}{12}$

Now we can work the problem out as normal.

3. Add the fractions together. Remember the denominator stays the same.

$$\frac{9}{12} + \frac{8}{12} =$$

$\frac{3}{4} + \frac{2}{3} = \frac{5}{7}$



Who can explain the mistake made here?

Using the pictures we can clearly see that $\frac{3}{4}$ is bigger than $\frac{5}{7}$.