

Fractions of shapes

A fraction represents a part of a whole. When a whole is divided into equal parts, each of the parts is a fraction of the whole.

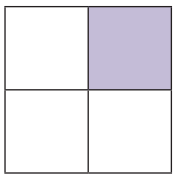
A fraction is written with a top number (numerator) and a bottom number (denominator).

$\frac{1}{2}$ ← The numerator tells you how many of those equal parts you have got.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ ← The denominator tells you how many equal parts the whole has been divided into.



A **unit fraction** is a fraction where the numerator is 1, for example $\frac{1}{3}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$.

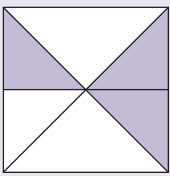
This square has been divided into four equal parts of size $\frac{1}{4}$.



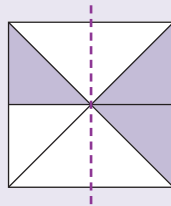
$\frac{1}{4}$ is shaded.
 $\frac{3}{4}$ is unshaded.

Sometimes, the shape may not be divided into equal parts. Therefore, you need to work out what equal parts would look like.

What fraction of this shape is shaded?



Even though the square is split into six parts, they are not equal parts and therefore they are not sixths.



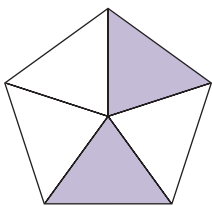
The shaded parts are actually eighths as you can see by adding lines to show the equal fractions.

Answer: $\frac{3}{8}$ of the shape is shaded.

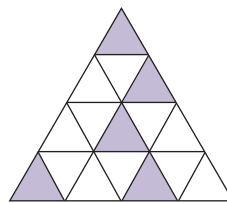


What fraction of each shape is shaded?

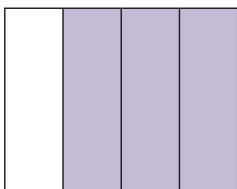
1.



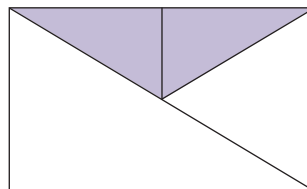
4.



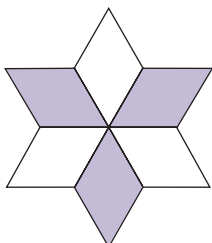
2.



5.



3.



6.

