



Most people do not actually divide fractions. They multiply by the reciprocal of the divisor. Why do they do this? Have you ever tried actually dividing a fraction?

Calculate a variety of fraction division problems. Find the answer by dividing the numerators, dividing the denominators, then dividing the results to write your answer as a whole, mixed or rational number in lowest terms. Here is an example for you: $1/2 \div 1/4 = ?$; $1 \div 1 = 1$ and $2 \div 4 = .5$; then $1 \div .5 = 2$. This is fairly easy with some problems but not all. Attempt this method by using problems similar to the example.

Create a poster showing examples of this method of division. Include a summary of the results of working the page in your textbook with this method. List advantages and disadvantages of this method, as well as recommendations for usage.

Extension: Field test this method on your classmates. Explain the method to half the class and let the other half use the invert and multiply technique. Have each half work the same problems and compare the results. Find another page of similar problems and switch the groups. Compare the results.