

Cross Canceling

$$\frac{4}{8} \times \frac{8}{9}$$

Step 1: Look diagonally at the fractions. Ask yourself "Is there a factor that will go into both 4 and 9?"

$$\frac{4}{8} \times \frac{8}{9}$$

Step 2: Look diagonally at the fractions again. Ask yourself "Is there a factor that will go into both 8 and 8?"

Step 3:

If the answer to Step 1 or Step 2 is **YES** then reduce the numerator + denominator by that number.

$$\frac{4}{\cancel{8}} \times \frac{\cancel{8}}{9} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{How many times will 8 go into 8?} \\ \leftarrow \text{How many times will 8 go into 8?} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \equiv \\ \equiv \\ \equiv \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} 8 \text{ will go into both } 8 + 8 \end{array}$$

Step 4: Finish the problem up by multiplying numerators + denominators and then **REDUCE** your answer!

$$\frac{4}{\cancel{8}} \times \frac{\cancel{8}}{9} = \frac{4 \times 1}{1 \times 9} = \frac{4}{9}$$