

LESSON  
2.6**Study Guide**

For use with the lesson "Write Ratios and Proportions"

**GOAL Find ratios and write and solve proportions.****Vocabulary**

A **ratio** uses division to compare two quantities. You can write a ratio of two quantities  $a$  and  $b$ , where  $b$  is not equal to 0, in three ways.

$$a \text{ to } b \qquad a : b \qquad \frac{a}{b}$$

Each ratio is read "the ratio of  $a$  to  $b$ ." Ratios should be written in simplest form.

A **proportion** is an equation that states that two ratios are equivalent.

**EXAMPLE 1 Write a ratio**

**A shoe store sells 15 pairs of women's shoes and 12 pairs of men's shoes. Find the specified ratio.**

- Find the ratio of women's shoe sales to men's shoe sales.
- Find the ratio of men's shoe sales to total shoe sales.

**Solution**

- $\frac{\text{women's shoe sales}}{\text{men's shoe sales}} = \frac{15}{12} = \frac{5}{4}$
- $\frac{\text{men's shoe sales}}{\text{total shoe sales}} = \frac{12}{15 + 12} = \frac{12}{27} = \frac{4}{9}$

**EXAMPLE 2 Solve a proportion**

**Solve the proportion  $\frac{7}{9} = \frac{x}{54}$ .**

**Solution**

$$\frac{7}{9} = \frac{x}{54} \qquad \text{Write original proportion.}$$

$$54 \cdot \frac{7}{9} = 54 \cdot \frac{x}{54} \qquad \text{Multiply each side by 54.}$$

$$\frac{378}{9} = x \qquad \text{Simplify.}$$

$$42 = x \qquad \text{Divide.}$$

**LESSON**  
**2.6**
**Study Guide** *continued*  
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**Exercises for Examples 1 and 2**

**A family has 75 VCR movies and 120 DVD movies. Find the specified ratio.**

- The number of VCR movies to the number of DVD movies
- The number of DVD movies to the entire movie collection

**Solve the proportion. Check your solution.**

$$3. \quad \frac{x}{72} = \frac{3}{8}$$

$$4. \quad \frac{9}{18} = \frac{y}{90}$$

$$5. \quad \frac{z}{16} = \frac{96}{128}$$

**EXAMPLE 3** **Solve a multi-step problem**

A restaurant owner uses 3 cloves of garlic for every 5 pints of sauce. The restaurant uses 210 pints of sauce during the day. Find the number of cloves of garlic the restaurant uses to make the sauce.

**Solution**

**STEP 1** Write a proportion involving two ratios that compare the amount of garlic to the pints of sauce.

$$\frac{3}{5} = \frac{x}{210} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{cloves of garlic} \\ \leftarrow \text{pints of sauce} \end{array}$$

**STEP 2** Solve the proportion.

$$\frac{3}{5} = \frac{x}{210} \quad \text{Write original proportion.}$$

$$210 \cdot \frac{3}{5} = 210 \cdot \frac{x}{210} \quad \text{Multiply each side by 210.}$$

$$\frac{630}{5} = x \quad \text{Divide.}$$

$$126 = x \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

The restaurant uses 126 cloves of garlic to make the sauce.

**Exercises for Example 3**

- A secretary can type 32 words in 60 seconds. How many words can the secretary type in 150 seconds?
- A secretary can type 48 words in 60 seconds. How many words can the secretary type in 400 seconds?