

Converting an Improper Fraction to a Mixed Number

A **mixed number** is a fraction greater than one (1). It has a whole number and a fraction.

EXAMPLE

$$5\frac{1}{3}$$

This mixed number is read *five and one-third*.

An **improper fraction** is a fraction greater than one (1). The digit in the numerator (top) is greater than the digit in the denominator (bottom).

EXAMPLE

$$\frac{9}{4}$$

Notice, the numerator (9) is greater than the denominator (4).

This improper fraction is read *nine-fourths*.

To convert an improper fraction to a mixed number follow these three steps:

Step 1: Use the same denominator as in the mixed number.

Step 2: Divide the numerator by the denominator to get the whole number.

Step 3: The leftover amount is the numerator for the fraction.

EXAMPLE

Convert $\frac{9}{4}$ to an improper fraction.

Step 1: $\frac{\quad}{4}$

Step 2: $9 \div 4 = \mathbf{2} \text{ R}1$

Step 3: $9 \div 4 = 2 \text{ R}1$

$$\frac{9}{4} = \mathbf{2}\frac{1}{4}$$