Name: _____ **Fractions that equal 1**

What fraction (part) of this hexagon is shaded gray?

All of it.

How can you write that as a fraction?

The hexagon has been divided into **6** equal pieces. **6** out of the **6** pieces are shaded gray . . . that's **6/6.**

**6/6** of the hexagon is the **whole** hexagon.

**6/6** is the same as **1** whole.

**6/6** = **1**.

Look at the pentagon on the left.

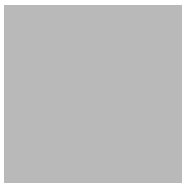
**5/5** of the pentagon is shaded. That's **1** whole pentagon.

**5/5** is the same as **1** whole. **5/5** = **1**

**6/6** and **5/5** are each equal to **1**. So are 7/7, 15/15, 2/2, and 734/734.

*Any* fraction with the same numerator and denominator is equal to **1**. *Why*?

Look at the square to the right. The whole square is shaded gray.



It has not been divided. There is only one piece.

What fraction of the square is shaded?

**1** out of **1** piece is shaded. That's **1/1**.

**1/1** square is the whole square.

**1/1** is the same as **1** whole. **1/1** = **1**.

Name: _____ **Unit Fractions**

Unit Fractions:

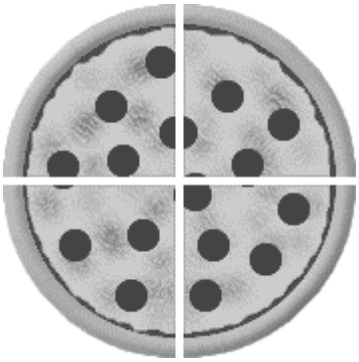
A fraction that has 1 for its numerator (top) is called a ***unit fraction***.

½ is a unit fraction. So is ¼.

1/3, 1/5, 1/6, 1/19, 1/56 are all unit fractions.

How do we get a unit fraction? We divide the whole into equal pieces (the denominator tells how many pieces) and take any 1 of them.

We can use unit fractions to build up larger fractions—in the same way that we use the number 1 to build up larger whole numbers.



This pizza is divided into 4 equal pieces. Each piece is ¼ of the pizza. Each piece represents the unit fraction ¼.

If you take 2 pieces, you have taken 1/4 plus another 1/4, or 2/4 of the pizza.

2/4 = 1/4 + 1/4 *or* 2/4 = 2 x ¼

If you take 3 pieces, you have taken 3 one-fourths of the pizza, or ¾ of the pizza.

¼ + ¼ + ¼ = ¾ *or* 3 x ¼ = ¾

What if you take all 4 pieces?

Then you have taken 1 whole pizza.

_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = _____ = **1** *or*

_____ x _____ = _____ = **1**.