

# Fraction Basics



1



$1/2$



$1/4$

Mr. Frankel

June 2004

# What Is a Fraction?

A fraction names a piece of a single thing.

- This is **one-half** of a cookie.



A fraction names a part of a group of things.

- **One-third** or 1 out of 3 cookies are chocolate chip.



# Fraction Notation

A fraction is a number used to name a part of a group or a part of a whole.

The number above the bar is the **numerator**.

The number below the bar is the **denominator**.

The fraction **one-fourth** is written like this:

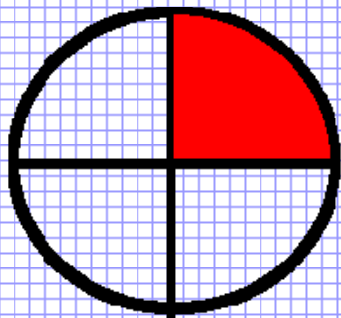
$$\frac{1}{4}$$

This is the numerator.

This is the denominator.

# Fraction Models

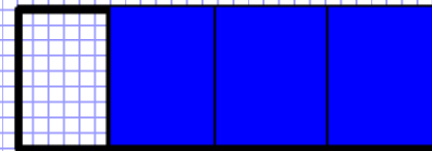
Fractions can be shown as parts of a circle



Here is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a circle.

1 out of 4 parts is shaded in, so we say **one-fourth**.

or as parts of a rectangle.



Here is  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a rectangle.

3 out of 4 parts are shaded in, so we say **three-fourths**.