RATIOS

Using Ratios

Ratios are used to make a comparison between two things.

Example 1:

Look at the shapes above.

What is the ratio of RED squares to GREEN triangles?

We are comparing the number of RED squares to GREEN triangles.

Answer

We say: 4 to 6 (4 RED squares TO 6 GREEN triangles)

We write: 4:6

Expressed as fraction: 4/6
Example 2:

This bag of marbles contains 10 BLACK marbles, 5 PURPLE marbles, and 6 ORANGE marbles.

What is the ratio of ALL the marbles to purple marbles?

We are comparing the TOTAL number of marbles (all the marbles) in the bag to the number of PURPLE marbles.

We need to find the total number of marbles first by adding

$$10 + 5 + 6 = 21$$

**Answer**

We say: 21 to 5 (21, total number of marbles TO 5 PURPLE marbles)

We write: 21:5

Expressed as fraction: $\frac{21}{5}$