**Notes on Finding a Common Denominator**

**Three Methods for finding common denominators**

1. **Quick Common Denominator**

Multiply the two denominators together to get the *quick common denominator*. Then use the multiplication rule to turn both fractions into equivalent fractions with the same denominator.

*Example:*

1. **Use Multiples**

See if one of the denominators is a multiple of the other. If so, use the multiplication or division rule to create the equivalent fraction with the same denominator. You will only need to rewrite one of the fractions.

*Example:*

1. **Least Common Multiple**

If you can’t use one of the denominators for both fractions, list the multiples of the larger denominator until you find the smallest multiple that both denominators have in common. Then use the multiplication rule to turn both fractions into equivalent fractions, using that multiple as the common denominator.

 *Example:*