

Least Common Multiple

Find the LCM of each set of numbers.

1) 30 and 45

Method #1 (List Multiples)

$$30 \rightarrow 30, 60, 90$$

$$45 \rightarrow 45, 90$$

$$\text{LCM} = 90$$

Method #2 (Prime Factorization)

$$30 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$$

$$45 = 3^2 \cdot 5$$

$$\text{LCM} = 2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5 = 90$$

2) 12, 16, and 36

Method #1

$$12 \rightarrow 12, 24, 36, 48, 60, 72, 84, 96, 108, 120, 132, 144$$

$$16 \rightarrow 16, 32, 48, 64, 80, 96, 112, 128, 144$$

$$36 \rightarrow 36, 72, 108, 144$$

$$\text{LCM} = 144$$

Method #2

$$12 = 2^2 \cdot 3$$

$$16 = 2^4$$

$$36 = 2^2 \cdot 3^2$$

$$\text{LCM} = 2^4 \cdot 3^2 = 144$$