Name

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5-2 Prime Factorization



Objective: to learn how to use divisibility rules to express whole numbers in terms of their simplest factors.

- prime number: any number divisible by only two (2) factors- itself and "1" (the identity number).
- **♦** composite number: any numbers with three or more factors.
- prime factorization: a set of prime numbers whose product equals the original number.



****To find prime factorization, create a "factor tree."**

- 1. Find any two numbers whose product equals the original number (use divisibility rules) and write each number at the end of a "branch."
- 2. If the number at the end of the "branch" is composite, continue the tree.
- 3. When the number at the end of a branch is prime, circle the prime number and stop the branch.
- 4. Prime Factorization is complete when the ends of all the branches are circled (you've arrived at all prime numbers).
- 5. Write a multiplication sentence listing the factors from least to greatest.



Note: even if you can begin divisibility with different factors, your prime factorization, if correct, will be identical.



EXAMPLE #2:

Find the prime factorization of 60:





1. 88

2. **192**