This activity is about simplifying ratios.

## Information sheet

A ratio is a way of comparing two or more quantities.
To make this squash, you use 4 times as much water as concentrate.
The ratio of concentrated flavour to water is 1:4.  The order is important.

### Think about

What would a ratio of 4 : 1 mean?

Different ratios of **chippings : sand : cement** are used to make mortar for different jobs in the construction trade. The ratio could be **6 : 3 : 1 or 4 : 2: 1** .

### Think about

What would these ratios mean?

## Simplifying ratios

Divide each part by the same number

**Examples:**     4 : 8   =   1 : 2  (dividing both numbers by 4)

          30 : 24  =  5 : 4 (dividing both numbers by 6)

### Try these . . . .

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **a**  20 : 25 | **b**  15 : 18 | **c**  8 : 24 |
| **d**  25 : 10 | **e**  60 : 100 | **f**  15 : 40 |
| **g**  12 : 9 | **h**  16 : 6 | **i**  30 : 25 |
| **j**  160 : 120 | **k**  0.5 : 2 | **l**  0.25 : 3 |

(Tip:  Multiply to make the decimals into whole numbers!)

All parts must be in the **same units** before you simplify.

**Example:**  75p : £1     =   75p : 100p (changing £1 into pence)

          =      3 : 4 (dividing both numbers by 25)

### Try these . . . .

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **m**  20p : £1 | **n**  50 cm : 1 m | **o**  60p : £2.40 |
| **p**  2 cm : 5 mm | **q**  £3.60 : 80p | **r**  75 cm : 1.2 m |

## At the end of the activity

- What is a ratio?

- Give an example of a ratio used in real life.

- How do you simplify a ratio like 24 : 36?  What is the simplest form of this ratio?

- What must you remember to do first when simplifying a ratio like 5 m : 20 cm?