

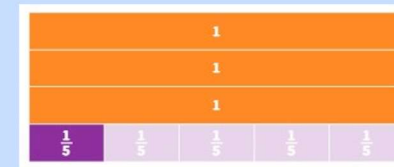
Changing a Mixed Number to an Improper Fraction

A **mixed number** is a whole number and a fraction, e.g. $3\frac{1}{5}$

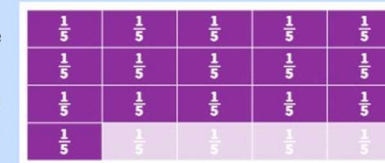
To change it to an improper fraction:

1. Use fraction tiles, strips, or drawings to represent the mixed number.
2. Break whole numbers into fraction parts.
3. Count all fraction parts.
4. Write your answer as an improper fraction.
5. This is the same as multiplication and addition.

Images made using the free virtual manipulatives available at Polypad, by Amplify.



Because the fraction part is in fifths, split the wholes into fifths.



There are sixteen fifths.

$$\frac{16}{5}$$

$$3\frac{1}{5} = (3 \times 5) + 1 = \frac{16}{5}$$