

Notes for Factors & Prime and Composite Numbers

Factors are numbers that are multiplied together to find a product.

The factors of 12 are : 1 x 12

2 x 6

3 x 4

So we list them least to greatest: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 12

The factors of 15 are : 1 x 15

3 x 5

So we list them least to greatest: 1, 3, 5, 15

The factors of 9 are : 1 x 9

3 x 3

So we list them least to greatest: 1, 3, 9 (notice we only say 3 once)

A **prime** number has exactly two factors, 1 and itself.

Note: The numbers 0 and 1 are neither prime nor composite. Zero has an endless number of factors. One has only 1 factor, itself.

The factors of 13 are : 1 x 13 There's only 2...therefore, it is prime.

The factors of 23 are : 1 x 23 There's only 2...therefore, it is prime.

A **composite** number has more than two factors.

The factors of 24 are : 1 x 24

2 x 12

3 x 8

4 x 6

So we list them least to greatest: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24.....24 is composite.