

Is there an easier way to solve proportions?

Rainbow-Rainbow

$$\frac{2}{7} = \frac{6}{x}$$

Compare the numerators or denominators. Notice the second numerator is three times as large as the first one. Therefore, the second denominator will be three times as large as the first, so $x = 21$. This is called analyzing the relationship “between” ratios.

We can also compare the numerators to their denominators and “rainbow-rainbow” up and down. This is called analyzing the relationship “within” ratios.

$$\frac{2}{8} = \frac{5}{x}$$

We multiply the top (2) times 4 to get the bottom (8), so we will also multiply the top (5) times 4 to solve for x (20).