Multiplying Mixed Numbers

How to find the product of two mixed numbers:

Find $3\frac{2}{3} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$.

Step 1

Estimate by rounding.

$$3\frac{2}{3} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$4 \times 5 = 20$$

Then write each mixed number as an improper fraction.

$$3\frac{2}{3} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$$

$$\downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow$$

$$\frac{11}{3} \times \frac{9}{2}$$

Step 2

Look for common factors and simplify.

$$\frac{11}{\cancel{3}} \times \frac{\cancel{3}}{\cancel{2}} = \frac{11}{\cancel{1}} \times \frac{\cancel{3}}{\cancel{2}}$$

Step 3

Multiply. Write the product as a mixed number.

$$\frac{11}{1} \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{33}{2} = 16\frac{1}{2}$$

 $16\frac{1}{2}$ is close to 20, so the answer is reasonable.

Find each product. Simplify if possible.

1.
$$2\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{2} =$$

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 2. $2\frac{1}{5} \times 2\frac{2}{3} =$ **...**

3.
$$6 \times 3\frac{1}{4} =$$
 4. $1\frac{2}{5} \times 3\frac{1}{4} =$ **4.**

4.
$$1\frac{2}{5} \times 3\frac{1}{4} =$$

5.
$$4\frac{1}{2} \times 16 =$$

5.
$$4\frac{1}{2} \times 16 =$$
 6. $1\frac{3}{8} \times 2\frac{1}{2} =$ **6.**

7. Number Sense Is $2 \times 17\frac{5}{6}$ greater than or less than 36? Explain.