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Technology LAB 4-3

Greatest Common Factor

Use with Lesson 4-3

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KEYWORD: MR7 Lab4

You can use a graphing calculator to quickly find the greatest common factor (GCF) of two or more numbers. A calculator is particularly useful when you need to find the GCF of large numbers.

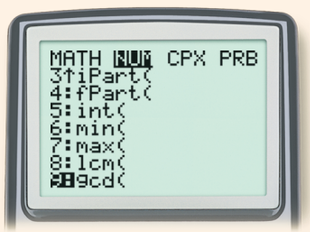
Activity

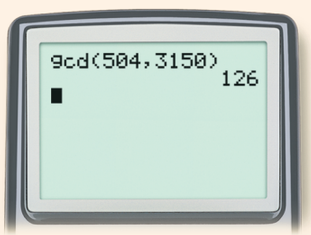
Find the GCF of 504 and 3,150.

The GCF is also known as the *greatest common divisor,* or GCD. The GCD function is found on the **MATH** menu.

To find the GCD on a graphing calculator, press MATH. Press ▶ to highlight NUM, and then use ▼ to scroll down and highlight 9:.

Press ENTER 504 , 3150) ENTER.





The greatest common factor of 504 and 3,150 is 126.

Think and Discuss

1. Suppose your calculator will not allow you to enter three numbers into the GCD function. How could you still use your calculator to find the GCF of the three following numbers: 4,896; 2,364; and 656? Explain your strategy and why it works.
2. Would you use your calculator to find the GCF of 6 and 18? Why or why not?

Try This

Find the GCF of each set of numbers.

1. 14, 48
2. 18, 54
3. 99, 121
4. 144, 196
5. 200, 136
6. 246, 137
7. 72, 860
8. 55, 141, 91