

# Equal Shares: Halves, Thirds, and Fourths

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 24

## Q Quick Review

When we split a shape into **equal shares**, every part is the same size. Two equal shares are called **halves**. Three equal shares are called **thirds**. Four equal shares are called **fourths** (also called **quarters**). The more equal shares you make, the **smaller** each share becomes — a fourth is smaller than a half. Equal shares must be fair: each piece has to be the same size. We can also call all the parts together the **whole** shape.

◇ **Example:** A pizza is cut into 4 equal shares. What is each share called, and how many shares make the whole pizza?  
 ⇒ The pizza is split into 4 equal pieces, and all the pieces are the same size. When a whole is cut into 4 equal shares, each share is called a fourth, or a quarter. To make the whole pizza again, we need all 4 of those shares together. So each share is a fourth, and 4 fourths make one whole pizza.

**Answer:** a fourth; 4 shares make the whole

## PRACTICE

Name the equal shares or count the parts as asked.

- Two equal shares of a shape are called \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Three equal shares of a shape are called \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Four equal shares of a shape are called \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- How many halves make one whole? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many thirds make one whole? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many fourths make one whole? \_\_\_\_\_
- One half of a shape has how many equal parts?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Another name for a fourth is a \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
- A cake is cut into 2 equal pieces. Each piece is a \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
- A sandwich is cut into 3 equal pieces. Each piece is a \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
- Which is bigger, one half or one fourth of the same shape? \_\_\_\_\_
- Which is smaller, one third or one half of the same shape? \_\_\_\_\_
- Are equal shares the same size or different sizes?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- A shape split into 4 equal parts has how many fourths in all? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many thirds are left if you eat 1 third of 3 thirds? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many halves are left if you eat 1 half of 2 halves? \_\_\_\_\_
- A pie has 4 equal slices. You eat 2. How many fourths are left? \_\_\_\_\_
- If you split a square into 4 equal shares, each is one \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_
- The whole shape is made of how many fourths? \_\_\_\_\_
- You join 2 halves of a circle. What do you get? \_\_\_\_\_

## ◆ Word Problems

- Grandma baked a pie and cut it into 4 equal slices for 4 children. What is each child's slice called? \_\_\_\_\_
- Carlos and his sister share a granola bar equally. They break it into 2 equal pieces. What is each piece called, and how many pieces make the whole bar? \_\_\_\_\_
- A pizza is cut into 3 equal shares. Maria eats 1 share. How many thirds of the pizza are left? \_\_\_\_\_
- Tom and Lily each have the same size cookie. Tom cuts his into 2 equal pieces and Lily cuts hers into 4 equal pieces. Whose pieces are bigger? \_\_\_\_\_



## Answer Keys

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|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">halves</span></li> <li>2. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">thirds</span></li> <li>3. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">fourths</span></li> <li>4. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">2</span></li> <li>5. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">3</span></li> <li>6. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">4</span></li> <li>7. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">1</span></li> <li>8. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">quarter</span></li> <li>9. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">half</span></li> <li>10. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">third</span></li> <li>11. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">onehalf</span></li> <li>12. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">onethird</span></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">samesize</span></li> <li>14. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">4</span></li> <li>15. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">2</span></li> <li>16. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">1</span></li> <li>17. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">2</span></li> <li>18. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">fourth</span></li> <li>19. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">4</span></li> <li>20. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">onewhole</span></li> <li>21. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">a fourth (a quarter)</span></li> <li>22. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">a half; 2 pieces make the whole</span></li> <li>23. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">2 thirds</span></li> <li>24. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px;">Tom's pieces</span></li> </ol> |
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### Step-by-Step Explanations

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|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When a shape is split into 2 equal parts, the parts are halves.</li> <li>2. When a shape is split into 3 equal parts, the parts are thirds.</li> <li>3. When a shape is split into 4 equal parts, the parts are fourths.</li> <li>4. It takes 2 equal halves put together to make one whole.</li> <li>5. It takes 3 equal thirds put together to make one whole.</li> <li>6. It takes 4 equal fourths put together to make one whole.</li> <li>7. One half is just 1 of the 2 equal parts.</li> <li>8. A fourth is also called a quarter, like a quarter of a dollar.</li> <li>9. Two equal pieces means each piece is one half.</li> <li>10. Three equal pieces means each piece is one third.</li> <li>11. Fewer shares means bigger pieces, so one half is bigger than one fourth.</li> <li>12. More shares means smaller pieces, so one third is smaller than one half.</li> <li>13. Equal shares must all be the same size to be fair.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>14. Four equal parts means there are 4 fourths in the whole.</li> <li>15. Start with 3 thirds and take away 1: <math>3 - 1 = 2</math> thirds left.</li> <li>16. Start with 2 halves and take away 1: <math>2 - 1 = 1</math> half left.</li> <li>17. Start with 4 fourths and take away 2: <math>4 - 2 = 2</math> fourths left.</li> <li>18. Four equal shares means each share is one fourth of the square.</li> <li>19. All 4 fourths put together make the whole shape.</li> <li>20. Two halves put back together make one whole circle.</li> <li>21. The pie is cut into 4 equal shares, so each slice is one fourth, which is also called a quarter.</li> <li>22. Two equal pieces are called halves. It takes both halves, 2 pieces, to make the whole granola bar.</li> <li>23. The pizza has 3 equal thirds. Maria eats 1, so <math>3 - 1 = 2</math> thirds are left.</li> <li>24. Fewer equal shares make bigger pieces. Tom made halves and Lily made fourths, so Tom's pieces are bigger.</li> </ol> |
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