Section 2.7 Division of Real Numbers

The important thing to remember when dividing real numbers is that fractions are simply division. Therefore, to divide by a real number you can simply multiply by its reciprocal.

Examples:

a. $10 \div (-2) = 10 \bullet (-\frac{1}{2}) = -5$

b. $5 \div \left(2\frac{1}{3}\right) = 5 \div \frac{7}{3} = (5)\left(\frac{3}{7}\right) = \frac{15}{7}$

c. $\frac{24x+12}{6} = (24x+12) \bullet \frac{1}{6} = \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)24x + \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)(12) = 4x + 2$