

15 pastries and 12 biscuit packets have been donated for a school fete. These are to be packed in several smaller identical boxes with the same number of pastries and biscuit packets in each. How many biscuit packets and how many pastries will each box contain?

Solution:

The required number is the HCF of 12 and 15.

$$15 = 12 \times 1 + 3$$

$$12 = 3 \times 4 + 0$$

$$\text{HCF} = 3$$

$$\text{Number of biscuit packets} = \frac{12}{3} = 4$$

$$\text{Number of pastries} = \frac{15}{3} = 5$$