Name: _____

LADDER METHOD

(Finding the LCM and GCF)

Use the Ladder Method to find the LCM and GCF:

Step 1: Write the numbers side by side with an L around it.

24	36

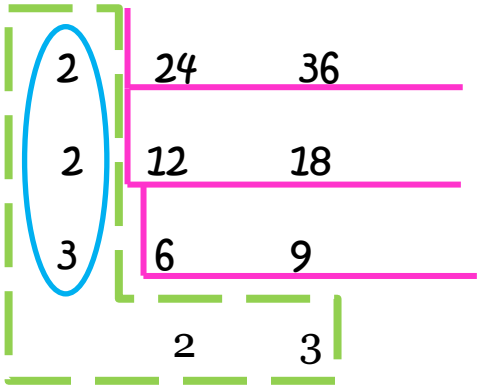
Step 2: Think of a common factor and write it on the left side of the L. Divide the numbers inside the L by the common factor and write the quotients UNDER the numbers.

2	24	36
	12	18

Step 3: If nothing goes into BOTH of the quotients evenly, go to step 4. If there is a common factor for the quotients, repeat step 2.

2	24	36
2	12	18
3	6	9
	2	3

Step 4: Use the numbers on the outside of the ladder to help you find the Lcm and GCF :



- **To find the LCM:** Multiply all of the numbers outside to the left and below the L, or "all around the L.

LCM = 2 x 2 x 3 x 2 x 3 = 72

- **To find the GCF:** Multiply all of the numbers on the outside LEFT of the L.

GCF = 2 x 2 x 3 = 12

YOU TRY: Find the LCM and GCF of the given numbers.

12, 18	36, 60
42, 60	32, 76