

67. (a) The equivalent capacitance is $C_{\text{eq}} = C_1 C_2 / (C_1 + C_2)$. Thus the charge q on each capacitor is

$$q = C_{\text{eq}} V = \frac{C_1 C_2 V}{C_1 + C_2} = \frac{(2.0 \mu\text{F})(8.0 \mu\text{F})(300 \text{ V})}{2.0 \mu\text{F} + 8.0 \mu\text{F}} = 4.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} .$$

The potential differences are: $V_1 = q/C_1 = 4.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} / 2.0 \mu\text{F} = 240 \text{ V}$, $V_2 = V - V_1 = 300 \text{ V} - 240 \text{ V} = 60 \text{ V}$.

- (b) Now we have $q'_1/C_1 = q'_2/C_2 = V'$ (V' being the new potential difference across each capacitor) and $q'_1 + q'_2 = 2q$. We solve for q'_1 , q'_2 and V' :

$$\begin{aligned} q'_1 &= \frac{2C_1 q}{C_1 + C_2} = \frac{2(2.0 \mu\text{F})(4.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C})}{2.0 \mu\text{F} + 8.0 \mu\text{F}} = 1.9 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} , \\ q'_2 &= 2q - q_1 = 7.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C} , \\ V' &= \frac{q'_1}{C_1} = \frac{1.92 \times 10^{-4} \text{ C}}{2.0 \mu\text{F}} = 96 \text{ V} . \end{aligned}$$

- (c) In this circumstance, the capacitors will simply discharge themselves, leaving $q_1 = q_2 = 0$ and $V_1 = V_2 = 0$.