

Exponents :

When to add: $x^2 \cdot x^3 = x^5$

When to subtract: $\frac{x^{3-2}}{x^2} = x$

Negative exponents:

$$x^{-3} = \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$\frac{1}{x^{-2}} = x^2$$

$$\frac{x^2}{x^{3-2}} = \frac{1}{x}$$

$(x^5)^2$ multiply $= x^{10}$ why? $(x^5)(x^5) = x^{10}$

$(x^{1/4})^{2/5}$ multiply $= x^{1/4 \cdot 2/5} = x^{2/20} = x^{1/10}$

$(x^{-3/4})^{1/2}$ multiply $= x^{-3/4 \cdot 1/2} = x^{-3/8}$

make positive

opposite location

changes sign of the exponent

$$\frac{x^{-3/8}}{1} = \frac{1}{x^{3/8}}$$

$$\sqrt{x} = (x)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\sqrt{16} = (16)^{1/2}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x} = (x)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\sqrt{x^3} = (x)^{3/2}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{x} = (x)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

Example

$$\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt[3]{x} = (x)^{1/2} \cdot (x)^{1/3}$$

$$\frac{3 \cdot 1}{3 \cdot 2} + \frac{1 \cdot 2}{3 \cdot 2}$$

$$\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{5}{6}$$

$$x^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}} = x^{\frac{5}{6}}$$

$$\sqrt[6]{x^5}$$

$$\frac{(x^2 \cdot x^3)^{1/2}}{(x^{-3} \cdot x^2)^5} = \frac{(x^5)^{1/2}}{(x^{-1})^5}$$

$$= \frac{x^{5/2 - (-5)}}{x^{-5}}$$

$$= x^{5/2 + 5/1}$$

$$= x^{5/2 + 10/2} = x^{15/2}$$

Exponents

When to add $\xrightarrow{\text{compare}} x^2 + x^3 = x^5$

$2x + 3x = 5x$

When to subtract $\frac{x^3}{x^2} = x^{3-2} = x$

$\frac{x^2}{x^3} = x^{2-3} = \frac{1}{x}$

When to multiply $(x^2)^3 = x^{2 \cdot 3} = x^6$

Why?

$(x^2)^3 = (x^2)(x^2)(x^2) = x^6$

Practice

$$x^3 \cdot x^7 = x^{10}$$

why? multiply same base then add exp.

$$\frac{x^{7-3}}{x^3} = x^4$$

Subtract smaller exp. from larger exp.

$$\frac{x^3}{x^{7-3}} = \frac{1}{x^4}$$

Subtract smaller exp from larger exp, but need place holder in numerator.

$$\frac{(x^3 \cdot x^5)^3}{(x^{-4} \cdot x^2)^6} = \frac{(x^8)^3}{(x^{-2})^6} = \frac{x^{24}}{x^{-12}}$$

$$\frac{x^{24}}{x^{-12}} = x^{24 - (-12)} = x^{24 + 12} = x^{36}$$

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Negative Exponents

* move to opposite location *

$$\frac{x^{-2}}{1} \quad \text{move to the bottom}$$
$$= \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$\frac{1}{x^{-2}} \quad \text{move to the top}$$
$$= x^2$$

Practice

move to make positive

$$\frac{x^{-4}y^2}{x^5y^{-3}}$$

move to make positive

$$\frac{y^{2+3}}{x^{5+4}} = \frac{y^5}{x^9}$$

$$\frac{x^{-4}y^2}{x^5y^{-3}}$$

$$= \frac{y^{2-(-3)}}{x^{5-(-4)}} = \frac{y^5}{x^9}$$

$$\sqrt[2]{x^1} = x^? \Rightarrow x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x^1} = x^? \Rightarrow x^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{x^1} = x^? \Rightarrow x^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

example:

$$\sqrt[5]{x^3} = x^{\frac{3}{5}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[2]{x} \cdot \sqrt[3]{x} &= x^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{3}} = x^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}} = x^{\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6}} \\ &= x^{\frac{5}{6}} \end{aligned}$$

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Exponents

$$x^{2+5} = x^7$$

When to add

$$2x + 5x = 7x$$

$$x \cdot x \oplus x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x$$

When to subtract

$$\frac{x^2}{x^{5-2}} = \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$\frac{x^{5-2}}{x^2} = x^3$$

When to multiply multiply

$$(x^2)^5 = x^{2 \cdot 5} = x^{10}$$

why?

$$(x^2)(x^2)(x^2)(x^2)(x^2) = x^{10}$$

When to move to the top or bottom

numerator denominator

$$\frac{x^{-2}}{1} \xrightarrow{\text{opposite location}} \frac{1}{x^2} = \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$\frac{3}{x^{-2}} \xrightarrow{\text{move to opposite location}} = 3x^2$$

Practice

$$\frac{x^{5-3}}{x^3} = x^2$$

$$\frac{x^{-3} y^{2-(-7)}}{x^5 y^{-7}} \Rightarrow \frac{y^{2-(-7)}}{x^{5-(-3)}} \Rightarrow \frac{y^{2+7}}{x^{5+3}}$$

$$\frac{y^9}{x^8}$$

$$\frac{x^{-3} y^2}{x^5 y^{-7}} \Rightarrow \frac{y^{2+7}}{x^{5+3}} = \frac{y^9}{x^8}$$

$$\frac{(x^3 \cdot x^4)^5}{(y^{-4} \cdot y^2)^6}$$

multiply

$$= \frac{(x^7)^5}{(y^{-2})^6}$$

multiply

$$= \frac{x^{35}}{y^{-12}}$$

make positive

$$= x^{35} y^{12}$$

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$$\sqrt[2]{x^1} = x^? = x^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad \sqrt{16} = (16)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x^1} = x^? = x^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{x^1} = x^? = x^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\sqrt[5]{x^2} = x^{2/5}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &3 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 2 \\ &3 \cdot 2 + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 2 \\ &\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{5}{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt[3]{x}$$

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{3}} = x^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}} = x^{\frac{5}{6}} = \sqrt[6]{x^5}$$

$$\frac{(x^2 \cdot y)^{1/2}}{(x^3 y^{-4})^{3/8}} = x^{2 \cdot 1/2} \cdot y^{1/2} = x y^{1/2}$$

$$= x^{3 \cdot (3/8)} \cdot y^{-4 \cdot (3/8)} = x^{9/8} y^{-3/2}$$

$$\frac{-4}{1} \cdot \frac{3}{8} = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$\frac{x y^{1/2}}{x^{9/8} y^{-3/2}}$$

$$\frac{y^{1/2 - (-3/2)}}{x^{9/8 - 0/8}} = \frac{y^{4/2}}{x^{9/8}} = \frac{y^2}{x^{9/8}}$$