

Algebra 1 7.2

Use the properties of exponents to divide monomials

Simplify expressions containing negative exponents

Simplify expressions containing zero exponents

Compare measurements using order of magnitude exponent

base

quotient

factors

negative exponent

order of magnitude

Triangle puzzle

$$\frac{2^7}{2^4} = 8$$
$$\frac{t^4}{t^6} = \frac{1}{t^2}$$

$$(\quad)^0 = 1$$

Patterns:

$$10^6 \quad 1,000,000$$

$$10^5 \quad 100,000$$

$$10^4 \quad 10,000$$

$$10^3 \quad 1000$$

$$10^2 \quad 100$$

$$10^1 \quad 10$$

$$10^0 \quad 1$$

 **KeyConcept** Zero Exponent Property

**Words** Any nonzero number raised to the zero power is equal to 1. why?

**Symbols** For any nonzero number  $a$ ,  $a^0 = 1$ .

**Examples**  $15^0 = 1$        $\left(\frac{b}{c}\right)^0 = 1$        $\left(\frac{2}{7}\right)^0 = 1$

replace zero powers with something =  
what would that be?

### Example 3 Zero Exponent

Simplify each expression. Assume that no denominator equals zero.

a.  $\left(\frac{4n^2q^5r^2}{9n^3q^2r}\right)^0 = 1$

b.  $\frac{x^5 \cdot 1}{x^3} = \frac{\cancel{x} \cancel{x} \cancel{x} \cancel{x} x}{\cancel{x} \cancel{x} \cancel{x}} \quad x^2 = \frac{x^2}{1}$

**Method 1**

$$\frac{c^2}{c^5} = \frac{\cancel{c} \cancel{c}}{\cancel{c} \cancel{c} \cancel{c} \cancel{c} \cancel{c}} = \frac{1}{c^3}$$

**Method 2**

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

neg expon =  
reciprocal

An expression can only have one answer...

$$2^3 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 8$$

$$2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$$

What do you think - might stand for (in this context)?

### KeyConcept Negative Exponent Property

**Words** For any nonzero number  $a$  and any integer  $n$ ,  $a^{-n}$  is the reciprocal of  $a^n$ . Also, the reciprocal of  $a^{-n}$  is  $a^n$ .

**Symbols** For any nonzero number  $a$  and any integer  $n$ ,  $a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$ .

**Examples**  $2^{-4} = \frac{1}{2^4} = \frac{1}{16}$        $\frac{1}{j^{-4}} = j^4$

negative exponent = code for reciprocal

### Example 4 Negative Exponents

Simplify each expression. ~~Assume that no denominator equals zero.~~

a.  $\frac{n^{-5}p^4}{r^{-2}}$

$$\frac{r^2 p^4}{n^5} =$$

final answer: exponents positive,  
no zero exponents



$$b. \frac{5r^{\cancel{2}}t^4u^5}{-20r^{\cancel{2}}t^{\cancel{7}}r^3}$$

final answer: exponents positive  
no zero exponents

$$\frac{5t^4u^5}{-20r^2t^7r^3} = \frac{5t^4t^4u^5u^5}{-20rr^{\cancel{2}}t^{\cancel{7}}t^{\cancel{7}}r^{\cancel{3}}r^{\cancel{3}}$$

$$= \frac{-1u^5}{4r^5t^3} = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{u^5}{r^5t^3}$$

**Guided Practice**

final answer: exponents positive  
no zero exponents

Simplify each expression. Assume that no denominator equals zero.

4A.  $\frac{wx^2y^6}{w^6v^3}$

4B.  $\frac{32a^3b^3c^2}{4a^3b^5a^8c^4}$

4C.  $\frac{5j^{-3}k^2m^{-6}}{25k^{-4}m^{-2}}$

$$\frac{wxxyyyyyy}{w^6v^3}$$

$$\frac{32 \cancel{a^3} \cancel{b^3} c^2}{4 \cancel{a^3} \cancel{b^5} a^8 c^4}$$

$$1 \cdot \frac{x^2 y^6}{v^3}$$

$$\frac{8}{a^{11} b^2 c^2}$$

$$\frac{(3x^2)^2 y^3}{24 \cancel{y}} \quad \frac{(3xx)(3xx) \cancel{y} y y xx}{24 \cancel{y}}$$

prac.

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$$\frac{9x^6 y^2}{24}$$

$$\frac{3x^6 y^2}{8}$$

