

Algebra 2 5.1

*Algebra 1 Ch. 8

Multiply, divide, and simplify monomials and power expressions*

Add, subtract, and multiply monomials*

base

exponent (power)

monomial number, variable, product

polynomial mult. monomials

simplify

degree (of a polynomial)

terms

like terms

distributive property

(bi = 2)
(tri = 3)

whiteboards

triangle puzzles

X²

Do you believe in God?

X³

Well, I do believe in higher
powers . . .

multiplicative inverse = reciprocal

$$\frac{2}{5} \cdot \frac{5}{2} = \frac{10}{10} = 1$$

$$\frac{a}{b} \cdot \frac{b}{a} = \frac{ab}{ab} = 1$$

p.303

Property

Product of Powers

$$a^3 \cdot a^5 = (a \cdot a \cdot a)(a \cdot a \cdot a \cdot a \cdot a) = a^8$$

Quotient of Powers

$$\frac{n^5}{n^3} = \frac{\cancel{n} \cancel{n} \cancel{n} \cancel{n} \cancel{n}}{\cancel{n} \cancel{n} \cancel{n}} = n^2$$

Negative Exponent

$$b^{-3} = \frac{1}{b^3} \quad \frac{1}{n^4} = n^{-4}$$

Power of a Power

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

Power of a Product

$$(a^2 b^3)^4 = \underbrace{a^8 b^{12}}_{\substack{x \times x \\ x \times x \\ x \times x \\ x \times x}}$$

Power of a Quotient

$$a^0 = 1$$

Zero Power

$$\left(\frac{x^2}{y^3}\right)^2 = \frac{(x \times x)(x \times x)}{(y \times y)(y \times y)} = \frac{x^4}{y^6}$$

$$\frac{a^3}{a^3} = a^{3-3} = a^0$$

$$\frac{a^3}{a^3} = \frac{\cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}}{\cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}} = 1$$

11

11

P. 304

Key Concept Simplifying Monomials

A monomial expression is in simplified form when:

- there are no powers of powers,
- each base appears exactly once,
- all fractions are in simplest form, and
- there are no negative exponents.

✓ zero exp

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

$$\text{b. } \frac{q^2 r^4}{q^7 r^3} \quad \begin{array}{c} q q \\ \hline q q q q q q q \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} r r r r \\ \hline r r r \end{array} \quad \frac{r}{q^5}$$

$$q^{-5} r^1 = \frac{r}{q^5}$$

Example 1 Simplify Expressions

Simplify each expression. Assume that no variable equals 0.

a. $(2a^{-2})(3a^3b^2)(c^{-2})$

$$\frac{b a^1 b^2 c^{-2}}{-1} = \frac{6ab^2}{c^2}$$

- 1. negative exponents (reciprocal)
- 2. expand
- 3. divide out common factors
- no parentheses
- no negative exponents
- terms are collected

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c. } \left(\frac{-2a^4}{b^2}\right)^3 &= \left(\frac{-2a^4}{b^2}\right) \left(\frac{-2a^4}{b^2}\right) \left(\frac{-2a^4}{b^2}\right) \\ &= -\frac{8a^{12}}{b^6} \end{aligned}$$

Guided Practice

1A. $(2x^{-3}y^3)(-7x^5y^{-6})$

$$-14x^2y^{-3}$$

$$\frac{-14x^2}{y^3}$$

1B. $\frac{15c^5d^3}{-3c^2d^7}$

$$-5c^3d^{-4}$$

$$-\frac{5c^3}{d^4}$$

1C. $\left(\frac{a}{4}\right)^{-3}$

1D. $(-2x^3y^2)^5$

StudyTip

Power of 1 Remember that a variable with no exponent indicated can be written as a power of 1.

2 Operations With Polynomials

The **degree of a polynomial** is the degree of the monomial with the greatest degree.



Example 2 Degree of a Polynomial

Determine whether each expression is a polynomial. If it is a polynomial, state the degree of the polynomial.

a. $\frac{1}{4}x^4y^3 - 8x^5$

yes $d = 7$

$d = 7 \quad d = 5$

no

b. $\sqrt{x} + x + 4$

no

c. $x^{-3} + 2x^{-2} + 6$

Guided Practice

2A. $\frac{x}{y} + 3x^2$

2B. $x^5y^1 + 9x^4\underline{y^3} - 2xy^1$

no

6 7 2

$d=7$

Like terms \approx Same var. Same exp.

Example 3 Simplify Polynomial Expressions

Simplify each expression.

a. $(4x^2 - 5x + 6) + (2x^2 + 3x - 1)$

$$\underline{4x^2} + \underline{-5x} + \underline{6} + \underline{2x^2} + \underline{3x} + \underline{-1}$$

$$2x^2 - 8x + 7$$

b. $(6x^2 - 7x + 8) + (-4x^2 + 9x - 5)$

$2x^2 + 2x + 3$

Guided Practice

3A. $(-x^2 - 3x + 4) - (x^2 + 2x + 5)$

3B. $(3x^2 - 6) + (-x + 1)$

Example 4 Simplify by Using the Distributive Property

Find $3x(2x^2 - 4x + 6)$.

$$\begin{array}{l} 3x \cdot 2x^2 \quad 3x \cdot -4x \quad 3x \cdot 6 \\ 6x^3 - 12x^2 + 18x \end{array}$$

Guided Practice

Find each product.

4A. $\frac{4}{3}x^2(6x^2 + 9x - 12)$

4B. $-2a(-3a^2 - 11a + 20)$

$$\begin{array}{r} \frac{4}{3}x^2 \cdot 6x^2 + \frac{4}{3}x^2 \cdot 9x + \frac{4}{3}x^2 \cdot -12 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$8x^4 + 12x^3 - 16x^2$$

triangle puzzles

17-610