

6-2 & 6.3 Radical Expressions

Target 4A. Use properties of integer exponents and apply them to rational exponents

Product Property of Radicals

For any real numbers a and b and any integer $n > 1$,

1. if n is even and a and b are both nonnegative, the $\sqrt[n]{ab} = \sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b}$
2. if n is odd, then $\sqrt[n]{ab} = \sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b}$

Simplify each expression.

1. $\sqrt[3]{16p^8q^7}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sqrt[3]{2^4} \cdot \sqrt[3]{p^8} \cdot \sqrt[3]{q^7} \\ &= 2^2 \cdot p^4 \cdot \sqrt[3]{q^6} \cdot \sqrt[3]{q} \\ &= \boxed{4p^4q^3\sqrt[3]{q}} \end{aligned}$$

2. $\sqrt[3]{75a^6b^{13}}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sqrt[3]{75} \cdot \sqrt[3]{a^6} \cdot \sqrt[3]{b^{13}} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{5^2 \cdot 3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{a^6} \cdot \sqrt[3]{b^{12} \cdot b} \\ &= \sqrt[3]{5^2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{a^6} \cdot \sqrt[3]{b^{12}} \cdot \sqrt[3]{b} \\ &= 5\sqrt[3]{a^3}b^4\sqrt[3]{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{b} = \boxed{5\sqrt[3]{a^3}b^4\sqrt[3]{3b}} \end{aligned}$$

Quotient Property of Radicals

For any real numbers a and $b \neq 0$, and any integer $n > 1$,

$\sqrt[n]{\frac{a}{b}} = \frac{\sqrt[n]{a}}{\sqrt[n]{b}}$, if all roots are defined.

Simplify each expression and rationalize the denominator.

3. $\sqrt{\frac{x^4}{y^5}}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\sqrt{x^4}}{\sqrt{y^5}} = \frac{x^2}{\sqrt{y^4} \cdot \sqrt{y}} \\ &= \frac{x^2}{y^2 \sqrt{y}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{y}} \\ &= \frac{x^2 \sqrt{y}}{y^2 \sqrt{y} \sqrt{y}} = \frac{x^2 \sqrt{y}}{y^2 |y|} = \boxed{\frac{x^2 \sqrt{y}}{y^3}} \end{aligned}$$

4. $\sqrt[5]{\frac{5}{4a}}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{\sqrt[5]{5}}{\sqrt[5]{4a}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt[5]{5}}{\sqrt[5]{2^2 a}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[5]{2^3 a^4}}{\sqrt[5]{2^3 a^4}} = \frac{\sqrt[5]{5 \cdot 2^3 a^4}}{\sqrt[5]{2^5 a^5}} = \boxed{\frac{\sqrt[5]{40 a^4}}{2a}} \end{aligned}$$

"No radicals in denominator"
So we need to get rid of radicals in denominator. (u)

You can use the Product and Quotient Properties to multiply and divide some radicals, respectively.

Multiply Radicals

5. $6\sqrt[3]{9n^2} \cdot 3\sqrt[3]{24n}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 6 \cdot \sqrt[3]{3^2 \cdot n^2} \cdot 3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{2^3 \cdot 3 \cdot n} \\ &= 18 \sqrt[3]{3^3 \cdot 2^3 \cdot n^3} \\ &= 18 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot n \\ &= \boxed{108n} \end{aligned}$$

6. $5\sqrt[3]{100a^2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{10a}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 5 \cdot \sqrt[3]{10^2 \cdot a^2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{10 \cdot a} \\ &= 5 \sqrt[3]{10^3 \cdot a^3} \\ &= 5 \cdot 10 \cdot a \\ &= \boxed{50a} \end{aligned}$$

You cannot add radicals in the same manner in which you multiply them. You can only add/subtract radicals if they are "like radical expressions". This means that both the indices and the radicands are alike.

$$\hookrightarrow \underline{3}\sqrt{7} + \underline{5}\sqrt{7} - \underline{1}\sqrt{7} = 7\sqrt{7}$$

"Not like radicals"
 $3\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{3}$

Add and Subtract Radicals

7. $2\sqrt{12} - 3\sqrt{27} + 2\sqrt{48}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 2 \cdot \sqrt{2^2 \cdot 3} - 3 \sqrt{3^2 \cdot 3} + 2 \sqrt{2^4 \cdot 3} \\ &= 2 \cdot 2\sqrt{3} - 3 \cdot 3 \cdot \sqrt{3} + 2 \cdot 2^2 \cdot \sqrt{3} \\ &= \underline{4}\sqrt{3} - \underline{9}\sqrt{3} + \underline{8}\sqrt{3} \quad \text{Add/subtract coefficients} \\ &= \underline{(3)\sqrt{3}} \end{aligned}$$

8. $3\sqrt{45} - 5\sqrt{80} + 4\sqrt{20}$

$$\begin{aligned} &3 \sqrt{3^2 \cdot 5} - 5 \sqrt{2^4 \cdot 5} + 4 \sqrt{2^2 \cdot 5} \\ &= 3 \cdot 3\sqrt{5} - 5 \cdot 2^2 \sqrt{5} + 4 \cdot 2 \sqrt{5} \\ &= \underline{9}\sqrt{5} - \underline{20}\sqrt{5} + \underline{8}\sqrt{5} \quad \text{Add/subtract coefficients} \\ &= \underline{(-3)\sqrt{5}} \end{aligned}$$

Multiply Radicals Using the Distributive Property

9. $(3\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{3})(2 + \sqrt{3})$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 3\sqrt{5} \cdot 2 + 3\sqrt{5} \cdot \sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{3} \cdot 2 - 2\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{3} \\ &= 6\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{15} - 4\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{9} \\ &= 6\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{15} - 4\sqrt{3} - 2 \cdot 3 \\ &= \underline{6\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{15} - 4\sqrt{3} - 6} \end{aligned}$$

No like terms (ii)

10. $(5\sqrt{3} - 6)(5\sqrt{3} + 6)$

	$5\sqrt{3}$	$+6$
$5\sqrt{3}$	$25\sqrt{9}$ $25 \cdot 3 = 75$	$30\sqrt{3}$
-6	$-30\sqrt{3}$	-36

$$\begin{aligned} &75 + 30\sqrt{3} - 30\sqrt{3} - 36 \\ &= 75 - 36 \\ &= \underline{39} \end{aligned}$$

Use a Conjugate to Rationalize a Denominator

11. $\frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{5+\sqrt{3}}$

$$= \frac{(1-\sqrt{3})}{(5+\sqrt{3})} \cdot \frac{(5-\sqrt{3})}{(5-\sqrt{3})} \quad \text{conjugate}$$

	5	$-\sqrt{3}$
5	25	$-5\sqrt{3}$
$+\sqrt{3}$	$5\sqrt{3}$	$-\sqrt{9} = -3$

$$= \frac{5+3-5\sqrt{3}-\sqrt{3}}{25-3}$$

$$= \frac{8-6\sqrt{3}}{22}$$

$$= \frac{8}{22} - \frac{6\sqrt{3}}{22}$$

$$= \underline{\frac{4}{11} - \frac{3\sqrt{3}}{11}}$$

	5	$-\sqrt{3}$
1	5	$-\sqrt{3}$
$-\sqrt{3}$	$-5\sqrt{3}$	$+\sqrt{9} = +3$

12. $\frac{2+\sqrt{3}}{4-\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{(4+\sqrt{3})}{(4+\sqrt{3})}$

$$= \frac{8+3+4\sqrt{3}+2\sqrt{3}}{16-3}$$

$$= \frac{11+6\sqrt{3}}{13}$$

$$= \underline{\frac{11}{13} + \frac{6\sqrt{3}}{13}}$$

	4	$+\sqrt{3}$
2	8	$2\sqrt{3}$
$+\sqrt{3}$	$4\sqrt{3}$	$\sqrt{9} = 3$

	4	$+\sqrt{3}$
4	16	$4\sqrt{3}$
$-\sqrt{3}$	$-4\sqrt{3}$	$-\sqrt{9} = -3$