

Math-1010

Lesson 2-4

Radicals

$\sqrt{3}$  What number is equivalent to the square root of 3?

$x = \sqrt{3}$  Square both sides of the equation

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

$x = \sqrt{3}$  is an equivalent statement to  $x^2 = 3$

$$\sqrt{3} \approx 1.732$$

There is no equivalent number

$$\approx 1.7321$$

The decimal, is just an approximation.

$$\approx 1.73205$$

$$\approx 1.732051$$

$$\approx 1.7320508\dots$$



## Adding and subtracting radicals

Can these two terms be combined using addition?  $3x + 2x$

Write  $3x$  as repeated addition  $x + x + x$

Write  $2x$  as repeated addition  $x + x$

$$3x + 2x \rightarrow x + x + x + x + x \rightarrow 5x$$

When multiplication is written as repeated addition, “like terms” look exactly alike.

$$3\sqrt{x} + 2\sqrt{x} \rightarrow \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x} + \sqrt{x} \rightarrow 5\sqrt{x}$$

$$3\sqrt{6} + 2\sqrt{6} \rightarrow \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} + \sqrt{6} \rightarrow 5\sqrt{6}$$

Define “like powers” “Same base, same exponent”.

$$3x^4 + 2x^4 \rightarrow 5x^4$$

Define “like radicals” “Same radicand, same index number”.

$$3\sqrt{6} + 2\sqrt{6} \rightarrow 5\sqrt{6}$$

Which of the following are “like radicals” that can be added?

$$\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{5} + \sqrt[4]{5}$$

$$2\sqrt{3} + 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$3\sqrt[5]{2} + 4\sqrt[5]{2}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{2} + \sqrt[3]{2}$$

$$6\sqrt[3]{4} + 6\sqrt[4]{4}$$

$$\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2} \rightarrow \sqrt{3+2} = \sqrt{5}$$

Are they equivalent?

$$\sqrt{3} \approx 1.7321... \quad \sqrt{2} \approx 1.4142...$$

$$\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2} \approx 3.1462... \quad \sqrt{5} \approx 2.2630...$$

$$\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{2} \neq \sqrt{5}$$

$$\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} \neq \sqrt{a+b}$$

This is NOT a property of radicals.  
NEVER DO THIS!!!!

$$\sqrt{4} + \sqrt{9} \rightarrow \sqrt{13}$$

$$\sqrt{4} + \sqrt{9} \rightarrow 2 + 3 \rightarrow 5 \neq \sqrt{13}$$

Simplify the following:

$$3\sqrt{2} + 5\sqrt{2} \rightarrow 8\sqrt{2}$$

$$5\sqrt{3} - 4\sqrt{3} \rightarrow \sqrt{3}$$

$$\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{5} \rightarrow 4\sqrt{5}$$

$$7\sqrt{6x} + 2\sqrt{6x} \rightarrow 9\sqrt{6x}$$

$$3\sqrt{x} + 2\sqrt{x} \rightarrow 5\sqrt{x}$$

$$5\sqrt{2x} - \sqrt{5x} + 3\sqrt{5x} \rightarrow 5\sqrt{2x} + 2\sqrt{5x}$$

$$7\sqrt{6} + 2\sqrt{24} \quad \text{not "like terms" in their present form}$$

$$\sqrt{3} * \sqrt{2}$$

$$\sqrt{3*2} \rightarrow \sqrt{6}$$

Will this work?

$$\sqrt{3} \approx 1.7321... \quad \sqrt{2} \approx 1.4142...$$

$$\sqrt{3} * \sqrt{2} \approx 2.4495$$

$$\sqrt{6} \approx 2.4495...$$

## Product of Radicals Property

$$\sqrt{a} * \sqrt{b} \rightarrow \sqrt{a*b}$$

$$\sqrt{5} * \sqrt{2} = \sqrt{10}$$

$$\sqrt{4} * \sqrt{9} \rightarrow \sqrt{4*9}$$

Are these equivalent?

$$2 * 3 \rightarrow \sqrt{36}$$

$$\sqrt{a} * \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$$

$$2 * 3 \rightarrow 6$$

$$6 = 6$$

Although I only gave two examples, it actually DOES WORK for whole number radicand.

$$\sqrt{a} * \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$$

Simplify the following:

$$3\sqrt{8} * 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$2\sqrt{3} * 3\sqrt{5}$$

$$\rightarrow 6\sqrt{15}$$

$$3 * \sqrt{8} * 5 * \sqrt{2}$$

$$7\sqrt{6} * 2\sqrt{5}$$

$$\rightarrow 14\sqrt{30}$$

$$3 * 5 * \sqrt{8} * \sqrt{2}$$

$$\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{5}$$

$$\rightarrow 4\sqrt{5}$$

$$15 * \sqrt{8} * \sqrt{2}$$

$$15 * \sqrt{16}$$

$$7\sqrt{6} + 2\sqrt{6}$$

$$\rightarrow 9\sqrt{6}$$

$$15 * 4 = 60$$

Simplify radicals: use the Product of Radicals to “break apart” the radical into a “perfect square” times a number.

$$\sqrt{a} * \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$$

$$\sqrt{18} \rightarrow \sqrt{9} * \sqrt{2} \rightarrow 3 * \sqrt{2} \rightarrow 3\sqrt{2}$$

Simplify

$$\sqrt{24} \rightarrow \sqrt{4} * \sqrt{6} \rightarrow 2\sqrt{6}$$

$$3\sqrt{32x^2} \rightarrow 3 * \sqrt{16} * \sqrt{x^2} + \sqrt{2} \rightarrow 3 * 4 * x * \sqrt{2} \rightarrow 12x\sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -2\sqrt{56x^3y} &\rightarrow -2 * \sqrt{x^2} * \sqrt{8 * 7xy} \\ &\rightarrow -2 * x * \sqrt{4} * \sqrt{2 * 7xy} \\ &\rightarrow -4x\sqrt{14xy} \end{aligned}$$

Can we add “unlike” radicals?.

$$\sqrt{a} * \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$$

Simplify

$$7\sqrt{6} + 2\sqrt{24} \rightarrow 7\sqrt{6} + (2 * \sqrt{4} * \sqrt{6})$$

$$\rightarrow 7\sqrt{6} + (2 * 2 * \sqrt{6})$$

$$\rightarrow 7\sqrt{6} + 4\sqrt{6}$$

$$\rightarrow 11\sqrt{6}$$

$$-3\sqrt{32} + 2\sqrt{8} \rightarrow (-3 * \sqrt{16} * \sqrt{2}) + (2 * \sqrt{4} * \sqrt{2})$$

$$\rightarrow (-3 * 4 * \sqrt{2}) + (2 * 2 * \sqrt{2})$$

$$\rightarrow -12\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{2}$$

$$\rightarrow -8\sqrt{2}$$

Simplify radicals: use the Product of Radicals to “break apart” the radical into a “powers of exponent ‘m’ ” times a number.

$$\sqrt[m]{a} * \sqrt[m]{b} = \sqrt[m]{ab}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x^4} \rightarrow \sqrt[3]{x^3} * \sqrt[3]{x} \rightarrow x\sqrt[3]{x}$$

Simplify

$$\sqrt[4]{3x^5y} \rightarrow \sqrt[4]{x^4} * \sqrt[4]{3x} \rightarrow x\sqrt[4]{3x}$$

$$3\sqrt[3]{16x^2y^5} \rightarrow 3 * \sqrt[3]{8} * \sqrt[3]{y^3} * \sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2}$$

$$\rightarrow 3 * \sqrt[3]{2^3} * \sqrt[3]{y^3} * \sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2}$$

$$\rightarrow 3 * 2 * y * \sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2}$$

$$\rightarrow 6y\sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2}$$

## Another way to Simplify Radicals Factor, factor, factor!!!

$$\sqrt{54} \rightarrow \sqrt[2]{54} \rightarrow \sqrt[2]{2*27} \rightarrow \sqrt[2]{2*3*9} \rightarrow \sqrt[2]{2*3*3*3}$$

What is the factor that is used '2' times under the radical?

Bring that out factor (that is used 2 times).

$$\rightarrow 3\sqrt[2]{2*3} \rightarrow 3\sqrt{6}$$

Using Properties of Exponents to reduce the writing:

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt[4]{32x^6} &\rightarrow \sqrt[4]{32 * x^4 * x^2} \\ &\rightarrow x\sqrt[4]{32 * x^2} \\ &\rightarrow x\sqrt[4]{2^4 * 2^1 * x^2} \\ &\rightarrow 2x\sqrt[4]{2x^2}\end{aligned}$$