

Math-2A Lesson 3-1 (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 $x^2 = 3$

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

$$\approx 1.7321$$

$$\approx 1.73205$$

$$\approx 1.732051$$

$$\approx 1.7320508\dots$$

There is no equivalent number

The decimal, is just an approximation.

The Irrational number system was created because of the side lengths of right triangles.

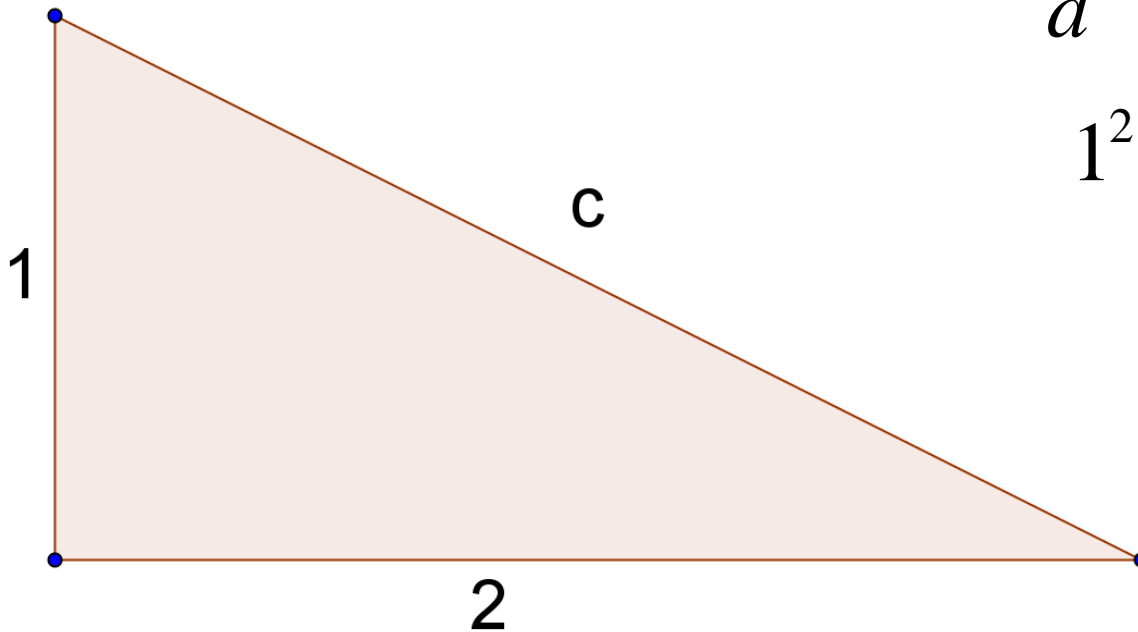
Pythagorean Theorem: If it's a right triangle, then side lengths can be related by:

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

$$1^2 + 2^2 = c^2$$

$$5 = c^2$$

$$\sqrt{5} = c$$



Vocabulary

Irrational numbers: cannot be written as a ratio of integers: $\frac{1}{2}$, $-\frac{2}{3}$, etc.

The decimal version of an irrational number never terminates and never repeats. (5.13257306...).

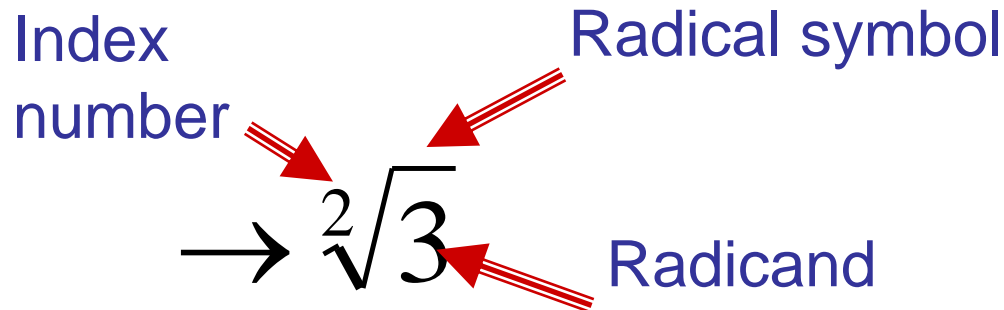
If we see the radical symbol, the number is usually irrational (unless it is a “perfect square”).

$$\sqrt{4} = 2 \text{ (rational \#)}$$

$$\sqrt{3}$$

Radicals

$$\sqrt{3}$$



$$x = \sqrt[2]{3}$$
$$x^2 = 3$$

The “square root of 3” means:
“what number squared equals 3?”

$$x = \sqrt[3]{4}$$
$$x^3 = 4$$

The “3rd root of 4” means:
“what number cubed equals 4?”

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

The “5th root of 2” means:
“what number used as a factor 5 times equals 2?”

Radicals

Index
number

Radical symbol

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

Radical symbol points to the $\sqrt{\quad}$ part.
Index number points to the 2 above the radical symbol.
Radicand points to the 3 inside the radical symbol.

Fill in the blanks. Try to recognize the perfect squares.

$$x = \sqrt[2]{16}$$

$$y = \sqrt[2]{19}$$

$$z = \sqrt[2]{22}$$

$$k = \sqrt[2]{25}$$

$$x^2 = 16$$

$$y^2 = 19$$

$$z^2 = 22$$

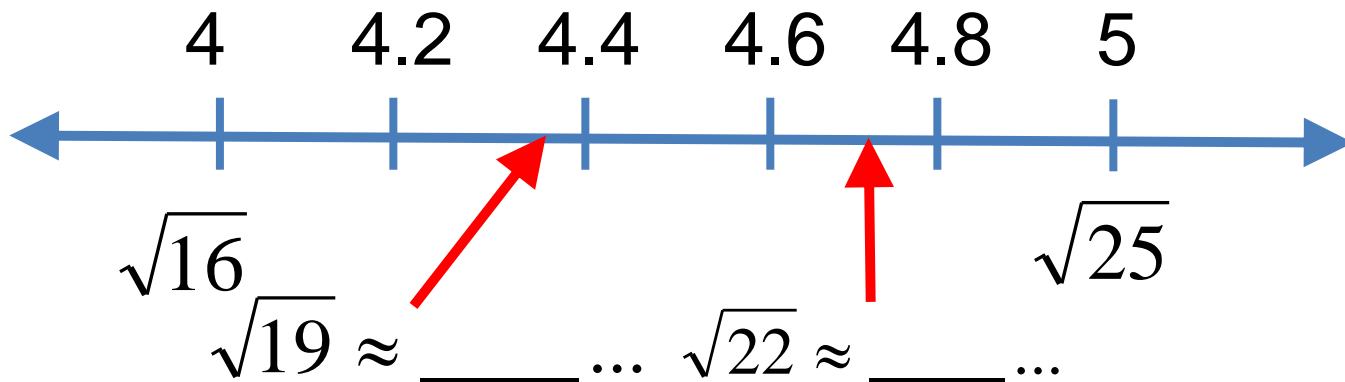
$$k^2 = 25$$

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$y = \underline{\quad}$$

$$z = \underline{\quad}$$

$$k = \underline{\quad}$$



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 zero and all positive numbers.

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

Simplify the following:

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

$$2\sqrt{3} * 3\sqrt{5} \rightarrow 6\sqrt{15}$$

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

$$7\sqrt{6} * 2\sqrt{5} \rightarrow 14\sqrt{30}$$

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

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

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

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

$$15 * \sqrt{16}$$

$$15 * 4 = 60$$

Simplify radicals: use the Product of Radicals to “factor” 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

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

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

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

Perfect Square: the result of multiplying a number times itself.

$3 * 3 = 9$ “9” is a perfect square because it is equivalent to $3 * 3$.

$3^2 = 9$ Find the first 10 perfect squares.

$$1^2 = \underline{1}$$

$$6^2 = \underline{36}$$

$$2^2 = \underline{4}$$

$$7^2 = \underline{49}$$

$$3^2 = \underline{9}$$

$$8^2 = \underline{64}$$

$$4^2 = \underline{16}$$

$$9^2 = \underline{81}$$

$$5^2 = \underline{25}$$

$$10^2 = \underline{100}$$

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

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

Simplify $7\sqrt{6} + 2\sqrt{24} \rightarrow 7\sqrt{6} + (2 * \sqrt{4} * \sqrt{6})$
 $\rightarrow 7\sqrt{6} + (2 * 2 * \sqrt{6})$
 $\rightarrow 7\sqrt{6} + 4\sqrt{6}$
 $\rightarrow 11\sqrt{6}$

$$\begin{aligned} -3\sqrt{32} + 2\sqrt{8} &\rightarrow (-3 * \sqrt{16} * \sqrt{2}) + (2 * \sqrt{4} * \sqrt{2}) \\ &\rightarrow (-3 * 4 * \sqrt{2}) + (2 * 2 * \sqrt{2}) \\ &\rightarrow -12\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{2} \\ &\rightarrow -8\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\sqrt[m]{a} * \sqrt[m]{b} = \sqrt[m]{ab} \quad \sqrt[3]{x^4} \rightarrow \sqrt[3]{x^3} * \sqrt[3]{x} \rightarrow x\sqrt[3]{x}$$

Simplify

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

$$\begin{aligned} 3\sqrt[3]{16x^2y^5} &\rightarrow 3 * \sqrt[3]{8} * \sqrt[3]{y^3} * \sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2} \\ &\rightarrow 3 * \sqrt[3]{2^3} * \sqrt[3]{y^3} * \sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2} \\ &\rightarrow 3 * 2 * y * \sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2} \\ &\rightarrow 6y\sqrt[3]{2x^2y^2} \end{aligned}$$

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?

“Factor out” the factor (that is used 2 times).

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

Using Properties of Exponents to reduce the writing:

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