

## 3.02 Operations with Radicals

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After simplification of radicals, the next step is operations

with radicals--that is, addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of radicals. Addition and subtraction of radicals is just like combining like terms. Even as  $3X + 4X = 7X$ , so it is true that  $3\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{2} = 7\sqrt{2}$  and  $3^3\sqrt{2} + 4^3\sqrt{2} = 7^3\sqrt{2}$ . The expression  $3\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{3}$  cannot be combined because  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{3}$  are "unlike radicals." Similarly,  $(3^3\sqrt{2} + 4^3\sqrt{3})$  and  $(3^3\sqrt{5} + 4\sqrt{5})$  cannot be combined since  $\sqrt[3]{2}$  and  $\sqrt[3]{3}$  are not like radicals and  $\sqrt[3]{5}$  and  $\sqrt{5}$  are unlike radicals.

What about  $3\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{8}$ ? At first glance, it appears that  $\sqrt{2}$  and  $\sqrt{8}$  are unlike radicals. However, since  $\sqrt{8}$  simplifies to  $2\sqrt{2}$ , the expression can be combined!

Can  $6 - 4\sqrt{2}$  be simplified to  $2\sqrt{2}$ ? This is a very common error! Even as  $6 - 4X$  cannot be combined, neither can  $6 - 4\sqrt{2}$ . It is possible to factor the common factor of 2 from  $6 - 4\sqrt{2}$  and write  $2(3 - 2\sqrt{2})$ . There will be more on factoring later.

Simplify each of the following radical expressions if possible.

1.  $3\sqrt{5} + 7\sqrt{5}$   
= \_\_\_\_\_

2.  $3\sqrt[3]{2} + 7\sqrt[3]{2}$   
= \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $3\sqrt{2} + 5\sqrt{3}$   
= \_\_\_\_\_

4.  $6 - 3\sqrt{5}$   
= \_\_\_\_\_

5.  $2\sqrt{3} - 23\sqrt{3}$   
= \_\_\_\_\_

6.  $3\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt[3]{2}$   
= \_\_\_\_\_

$$7. \quad \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{8}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$8. \quad \sqrt{27} + \sqrt{12}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$9. \quad 3\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{8}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$10. \quad 5\sqrt{18} + 6\sqrt{12}$$

$$11. \quad 5\sqrt{27} + 6\sqrt{12}$$

$$12. \quad 3\sqrt{75} + 4\sqrt{48}$$

In 13-18, find a) simplest radical form

b) the calculator value (to nearest hundredth).

$$13. \quad \sqrt[3]{16} + \sqrt[3]{54}$$

$$14. \quad 2\sqrt[3]{81} - 3\sqrt[3]{375}$$

$$15. \quad 7\sqrt[3]{40} + 3\sqrt[3]{320}$$

$$16. \quad 5\sqrt[3]{108} - 4\sqrt[3]{32}$$

$$17. \quad 7\sqrt[4]{32} - 3\sqrt[4]{162}$$

$$18. \quad 5\sqrt[5]{5} + 4\sqrt[5]{160}$$

19.  $7X^2 \sqrt{24XY^6} + 8Y^3 \sqrt{54X^5}$

20.  $5XY \sqrt{20X^7Y^5} - 4 \sqrt{45X^9Y^7}$

21.  $3X^2Y \sqrt{20XY^4} - 2X \sqrt{45X^3Y^6}$

22.  $3X^2Y \sqrt{20XY^4} + 2X \sqrt{45X^3Y^6}$

23.  $5X^2Y \sqrt[3]{54X^7Y^5} - 4XY^2 \sqrt[3]{16X^{10}Y^2}$

24.  $7X \sqrt[3]{16XY^3} + 8Y \sqrt[3]{54X^4}$

When multiplying radicals, use the **product property of radicals** in reverse:  $\sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b} = \sqrt[n]{ab}$ , where "a" and "b" are non-negative quantities, and "n" represents the **index** or the **order of the radical**.

25.  $\sqrt{5} \cdot \sqrt{7}$

26.  $\sqrt{3} \cdot \sqrt{11}$

27.  $\sqrt{6} \cdot \sqrt{10}$

28.  $\sqrt{15} \cdot \sqrt{6}$

$$29. \sqrt[3]{5} \cdot \sqrt[3]{7} \quad 30. \sqrt[3]{3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{11} \quad 31. \sqrt[3]{12} \cdot \sqrt[3]{6} \quad 32. \sqrt[3]{50} \cdot \sqrt[3]{5}$$

In the next examples (see #33), notice that if you just multiply the numbers together (like 35 times 77), you would get a very large number (like 2695) that will be difficult to break down and simplify. So, instead of multiplying it out, **why not factor the numbers first?** In the process, for square root problems (as this one is), be looking for "**pairs**" of numbers; for cube root problems, be looking for "**triplets**" or "**three of a kind;**" fourth roots, look for "**four of a kind;**" etc. Remember, "if you ain't got no pair, then you ain't got no square!"

In 33-38, find a) simplest radical form  
b) the calculator value (to nearest hundredth).

$$33. \sqrt{35} \cdot \sqrt{77} \quad 34. \sqrt{55} \cdot \sqrt{33} \quad 35. \sqrt{46} \cdot \sqrt{69}$$

$$= \sqrt{7 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 11}$$

$$= \sqrt{7^2} \cdot \sqrt{55}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$36. \sqrt{85} \cdot \sqrt{34} \quad 37. \sqrt{92} \cdot \sqrt{69} \quad 38. \sqrt{155} \cdot \sqrt{124}$$

$$39. \quad \sqrt[3]{35} \cdot \sqrt[3]{50}$$

$$= \sqrt[3]{5 \cdot 7 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 2}$$

$$= \sqrt[3]{5^3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{7 \cdot 2}}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$40. \quad \sqrt[3]{98} \cdot \sqrt[3]{35}$$

$$41. \quad \sqrt[3]{75} \cdot \sqrt[3]{15}$$

$$42. \quad \sqrt[3]{105} \cdot \sqrt[3]{45}$$

$$43. \quad \sqrt[3]{105} \cdot \sqrt[3]{50}$$

$$44. \quad \sqrt[3]{242} \cdot \sqrt[3]{55}$$

$$45. \quad 4\sqrt{3} \cdot 6\sqrt{15}$$

$$46. \quad 2\sqrt{6} \cdot 9\sqrt{10}$$

$$47. \quad 6\sqrt{35} \cdot 5\sqrt{42}$$

$$= 24\sqrt{45}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$48. \quad 8\sqrt[3]{65} \cdot 2\sqrt[3]{50}$$

$$49. \quad 15\sqrt[3]{98} \cdot 4\sqrt[3]{35}$$

$$50. \quad 4\sqrt[3]{21} \cdot 4\sqrt[3]{45}$$

Frequently, problems involve the **distributive property**, and the familiar process known as "**F O I L**" is used to find the products of radicals.

51.  $8\sqrt{10} (2\sqrt{6} - 3\sqrt{2})$

52.  $2\sqrt{6} (4\sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{2})$

53.  $4\sqrt{10} (8\sqrt{15} + 9\sqrt{30})$

54.  $3\sqrt{20} (5\sqrt{2} - 8\sqrt{15})$

55.  $(4 + 5\sqrt{6}) (8 + 2\sqrt{6})$

56.  $(4 - 5\sqrt{6}) (3 + 2\sqrt{6})$

57.  $(5\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{6}) (8\sqrt{3} - 5\sqrt{6})$

58.  $(4\sqrt{5} - 5\sqrt{15}) (3\sqrt{5} + 2\sqrt{15})$

In 59-60, find a) simplest radical form  
b) the calculator value (to nearest hundredth).

59.  $(6\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{15})^2$

60.  $(4\sqrt{6} + 5\sqrt{2})^2$

61.  $(6\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{15})(6\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{15})$

62.  $(4\sqrt{15} - 5\sqrt{6})(4\sqrt{15} + 5\sqrt{6})$

63.  $(4 - \sqrt[3]{2})(16 + 4\sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{4})$

64.  $(5 + \sqrt[3]{5})(25 - 5\sqrt[3]{5} + \sqrt[3]{25})$

65.  $(4 + \sqrt[3]{2})(16 - 4\sqrt[3]{2} + \sqrt[3]{4})$

66.  $(\sqrt[3]{3} + \sqrt[3]{2})(\sqrt[3]{9} - \sqrt[3]{6} + \sqrt[3]{4})$

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1.  $10\sqrt{5}$  ; 2.  $10\sqrt[3]{2}$  ; 3.  $3\sqrt{2} + 5\sqrt{3}$  ; 4.  $6 - 3\sqrt{5}$  ;

5.  $-21\sqrt{3}$  ; 6.  $3\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt[3]{2}$  ; 7.  $3\sqrt{2}$  ; 8.  $5\sqrt{3}$  ; 9.  $11\sqrt{2}$  ;



10.  $15\sqrt{2} + 12\sqrt{3}$  ; 11.  $27\sqrt{3}$  ; 12.  $31\sqrt{3}$  ; 13.  $5\sqrt[3]{2}$  , 6.30 ;  
 14.  $-9\sqrt[3]{3}$  , -12.98 ; 15.  $26\sqrt[3]{5}$  , 44.46 ;  
 16.  $7\sqrt[3]{4}$  , 11.11 ; 17.  $5\sqrt[4]{2}$  , 5.95 ; 18.  $13\sqrt[3]{5}$  , 17.94 ;  
 19.  $38X^2Y^3\sqrt{6X}$  ; 20.  $-2X^4Y^3\sqrt{5XY}$  ; 21. 0 ;  
 22.  $12X^2Y^3\sqrt{5X}$  ; 23.  $7X^4Y^2\sqrt[3]{2XY^2}$  ; 24.  $38XY\sqrt[3]{2X}$  ;  
 25.  $\sqrt[3]{35}$  ; 26.  $\sqrt{33}$  ; 27.  $2\sqrt{15}$  ; 28.  $3\sqrt{10}$  ; 29.  $\sqrt[3]{35}$  ;  
 30.  $\sqrt[3]{33}$  ; 31.  $2\sqrt[3]{9}$  ; 32.  $5\sqrt[3]{2}$  ; 33.  $7\sqrt{55}$  , 51.91 ;  
 34.  $11\sqrt{15}$  , 42.60 ; 35.  $23\sqrt{6}$  , 56.34 ; 36.  $17\sqrt{10}$  , 53.76 ;  
 37.  $46\sqrt{3}$  , 79.67 ; 38.  $62\sqrt{5}$  , 138.64 ; 39.  $5\sqrt[3]{14}$  , 12.05 ;  
 40.  $7\sqrt[3]{10}$  , 15.08 ; 41.  $5\sqrt[3]{9}$  , 10.40 ; 42.  $3\sqrt[3]{175}$  , 16.78 ;  
 43.  $5\sqrt[3]{42}$  , 17.38 ; 44.  $11\sqrt[3]{10}$  , 23.70 ; 45.  $72\sqrt{5}$  ;  
 46.  $36\sqrt{15}$  ; 47.  $210\sqrt{30}$  ; 48.  $80\sqrt[3]{26}$  ; 49.  $420\sqrt[3]{10}$  ;  
 50.  $48\sqrt[3]{35}$  ; 51.  $32\sqrt{15} - 48\sqrt{5}$  ; 52.  $24\sqrt{2} + 20\sqrt{3}$  ;  
 53.  $160\sqrt{6} + 360\sqrt{3}$  ; 54.  $30\sqrt{10} - 240\sqrt{3}$  ; 55.  $92 + 48\sqrt{6}$  ;  
 56.  $-48 - 7\sqrt{6}$  ; 57.  $60 - 27\sqrt{2}$  ; 58.  $-90 - 35\sqrt{3}$  ;  
 59.  $168 - 72\sqrt{5}$  , 7.00 ; 60.  $146 + 80\sqrt{3}$  , 284.56 ; 61. 48 ;  
 62. 90 ; 63. 62 ; 64. 130 ; 65. 66 ; 66. 5 .

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