


$$BASE^{EXPONENT}$$
$$5^2 = 5 \times 5$$

- An EXPONENT is written on the top right hand side of a BASE number
- The exponent tells us how many times to multiply the BASE together
- If the exponent is negative, we multiply the base together on the BOTTOM of a fraction,

- Eg. $5^{-2} = \frac{1}{5 \times 5} = \frac{1}{25}$

- A number to the power of one is equal to that base number.

- Eg. $7^1 = 7$, or $y^1 = y$

- Any number to the power of zero equals 1.

- Eg. $4^0 = 1$, or $x^0 = 1$



Exponent laws:

- Multiplying terms with exponents:

$$a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$$

- Dividing terms with exponents:

$$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$$

- An exponent on terms that are being multiplied (power of a product):

$$(ab)^m = a^m b^m$$

- An exponent on terms that are being divided (power of a fraction):

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m = \frac{a^m}{b^m}$$

- An exponent on a term with an exponent... (power of a power):

$$(a^m)^n = a^{m \times n}$$

- Fractional exponents:

$$a^{m/n} = \sqrt[n]{a^m} = (\sqrt[n]{a})^m$$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Practice Questions:
(Solutions at the end)**Solve:**

1. $4^3 =$
2. $(-5)^2 =$
3. $-5^2 =$
4. $7^{-2} =$
5. $2^2 \times 3^4 =$
6. $2^3 \times 4^{-2} =$

Simplify:Multiplying numbers with exponents that have the same base:

$$a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$$

1. $4^3 \times 4^2 =$
2. $7^6 \times 7^4 \times 7 \times 6 =$
3. $9^8 \times 9^{-2} =$
4. $x^3 \times x^2 \times y^7 =$
5. $a^5 \cdot a^{-2} \cdot b \cdot c^{-4} \cdot c =$

Dividing numbers with exponents that have the same base:

$$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Simplify:

1. $\frac{13^5}{13^3} =$

2. $\frac{5^{23}}{5^2 6^3} =$

3. $\frac{x^7}{x^4} =$

4. $\frac{5x^3}{5^{-2}x^2} =$

5. $\frac{4^6}{4^3 4^2} =$

An exponent on numbers that are being multiplied (power of a product):

$$(ab)^m = a^m b^m$$

Change the expression by applying the above exponent rule:

1. $(5 \times 3)^6 =$

2. $(a \cdot b \cdot c)^{-2} =$

3. $3^4 \times 5^4 \times x^2 =$

4. $d^3 \cdot e^{-3} \cdot f^3 =$

5. $(3c)^{-2} =$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

An exponent on numbers that are being divided (power of a fraction):

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m = \frac{a^m}{b^m}$$

Change the expression by applying the above exponent rule:

1. $\left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^2 =$

2. $\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^m =$

3. $\frac{5^{15}}{3^{15}7^2} =$

4. $\left(\frac{4}{xy}\right)^7 =$

5. $\frac{3^{-3}}{a^{-3} \cdot b^{-3}} =$

A power of a power...

$$(a^m)^n = a^{m \times n}$$

Simplify:

1. $(5^2)^4 =$

2. $(7^9)^{-2} =$

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

4. $(a^3 \cdot b^2)^4 =$

5. $(3^4 \cdot x^m)^n =$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Fractional exponents:

$$a^{m/n} = \sqrt[n]{a^m} = (\sqrt[n]{a})^m$$

- Remember, when an exponent has a fraction of $1/n$, it is describing the n^{th} root of our base.

- Eg. $25^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{25}$, or $27^{\frac{1}{3}} = \sqrt[3]{27}...$

- When we have an exponent of m/n , that means we want to take the n^{th} root of our base and put it to the power of m . Or put Our base to the power of m and then take the n^{th} root of THAT. Our rule says that the order we do them in doesn't matter.

1. True or False: $\sqrt{x^3} = x^{\frac{3}{2}}$

2. Solve: $8^{2/3} =$

3. Write with an exponent as a fraction: $\sqrt[5]{x^7} =$

4. Write with an exponent as a fraction: $(\sqrt[3]{27})^2 =$

5. Solve: $(\sqrt[3]{15})^3 =$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Altogether now ...**Simplify:**

1. $7^8 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 7^{-5} =$

2. $y^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot y^3 \cdot \frac{z^3}{z^2} =$

3. $(5x^2y)^2 + \frac{6c}{2c^2} =$

4. $(3a^8)^2 + (2a^4)^4 =$

5. $\left(\frac{8x^5y^3}{y}\right)^{-2} =$

Solutions:**Solve:**

1. $4^3 = 4 \times 4 \times 4 = 64$

2. $(-5)^2 = (-5) \times (-5) = 25$

3. $-5^2 = -(5 \times 5) = -25$ *Using BEDMAS this is like -1×5^2 , where we deal with our EXPONENT first, and then have our negative sign in front. Question 2 is different because the BRACKETS indicate that it is the full number “-5” that we are multiplying together. .



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

$$4. 7^{-2} = \frac{1}{7 \times 7} = \frac{1}{49}$$

$$5. 2^2 \times 3^4 = 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 = 324$$

$$6. 2^3 \times 4^{-2} = \frac{2 \times 2 \times 2}{4 \times 4} = \frac{4 \times 2}{4 \times 4} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2} = 0.5$$

Simplify:

Multiplying numbers with exponents that have the same base:

$$a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$$

$$1. 4^3 \times 4^2 = 4^{3+2} = 4^5$$

$$2. 7^6 \times 7^4 \times 7 \times 6 = 7^{6+4+1} \times 6 = 7^{11} \times 6$$

*Only the exponents that have MATCHING bases can be added together. When a number has no exponent, it is the same as that number having an exponent of 1.

$$3. 9^8 \times 9^{-2} = 9^{8+(-2)} = 9^{8-2} = 9^6$$

$$4. x^3 \times x^2 \times y^7 = x^{3+2} \times y^7 = x^5 y^7$$

$$5. a^5 \cdot a^{-2} \cdot b \cdot c^{-4} \cdot c = a^{5-2} \cdot b \cdot c^{-4+1} = a^3 \cdot b \cdot c^{-3}$$

Dividing numbers with exponents that have the same base:

$$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$$

Simplify:

$$1. \frac{13^5}{13^3} = 13^{5-3} = 13^2$$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

$$2. \frac{5^{23}}{5^2 6^3} = \frac{5^{23-2}}{6^3} = \frac{5^{21}}{6^3}$$

$$3. \frac{x^7}{x^4} = x^{7-4} = x^3$$

$$4. \frac{5x^3}{5^{-2}x^2} = 5^{1-(-2)} \cdot x^{3-2} = 5^{1+2} \cdot x^1 = 5^3 \cdot x \quad \text{*the numbers with the same base can each be combined.}$$

$$5. \frac{4^6}{4^3 4^2} = 4^{6-3-2} = 4^1 = 4$$

An exponent on numbers that are being multiplied (power of a product):

$$(ab)^m = a^m b^m$$

Change the expression by applying the above exponent rule:

$$1. (5 \times 3)^6 = 5^6 \times 3^6$$

$$2. (a \cdot b \cdot c)^{-2} = a^{-2} \cdot b^{-2} \cdot c^{-2}$$

$$3. 3^4 \times 5^4 \times x^2 = (3 \times 5)^4 \times x^2 = 15^4 \cdot x^2 \quad \text{*Only terms that have the SAME exponent can be combined with the product rule}$$

$$4. d^3 \cdot e^{-3} \cdot f^3 = (d \cdot f)^3 \cdot e^{-3}$$

$$5. (3c)^{-2} = 3^{-2} \times c^{-2}$$

An exponent on numbers that are being divided (power of a fraction):

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m = \frac{a^m}{b^m}$$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Change the expression by applying the above exponent rule:

$$1. \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{5^2}{3^2}$$

$$2. \left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^m = \frac{x^m}{y^m} \text{ *Your exponent may be a variable. Treat it the same way you would treat a number.}$$

$$3. \frac{5^{15}}{3^{15}7^2} = \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^{15} \cdot \frac{1}{7^2}$$

$$4. \left(\frac{4}{xy}\right)^7 = \frac{4^7}{x^7y^7}$$

$$5. \frac{3^{-3}}{a^{-3} \cdot b^{-3}} = \left(\frac{3}{a \cdot b}\right)^{-3}$$

A power of a power...

$$(a^m)^n = a^{m \times n}$$

Simplify:

$$1. (5^2)^4 = 5^{2 \times 4} = 5^8$$

$$2. (7^9)^{-2} = 7^{9 \times (-2)} = 7^{-18}$$

$$3. (x^3)^2 = x^{3 \times 2} = x^6$$

$$4. (a^3 \cdot b^2)^4 = a^{3 \times 4} \cdot b^{2 \times 4} = a^{12} \cdot b^8 \text{ *If you have more than one term, your outermost exponent will multiply each of your inner exponents.}$$

$$5. (3^4 \cdot x^m)^n = 3^{4n} \cdot x^{mn}$$



EXPONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

Fractional exponents:

$$a^{m/n} = \sqrt[n]{a^m} = (\sqrt[n]{a})^m$$

1. True or False: $\sqrt{x^3} = x^{\frac{3}{2}}$ **TRUE**
2. Solve: $8^{2/3} = (\sqrt[3]{8})^2 = 2^2 = 4$
3. Write with an exponent as a fraction: $\sqrt[5]{x^7} = x^{7/5}$
4. Write with an exponent as a fraction: $(\sqrt[3]{27})^2 = 27^{2/3}$
5. Solve: $(\sqrt[3]{15})^3 = 15^{3/3} = 15^1 = 15$

Altogether now ...

Simplify:

1. $7^8 \cdot 7^2 \cdot 7^3 \cdot 7 \cdot 7^{-5} = 7^{8+2+3+1+(-5)} = 7^9$
2. $y^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot y^3 \cdot \frac{z^3}{z^2} = y^{(\frac{1}{2}) \times 3} \cdot z^{3-2} = y^{\frac{3}{2}} \cdot z$ Also acceptable are: $\sqrt{y^3} \cdot z$
z OR $(\sqrt{y})^3 \cdot z$
3. $(5x^2y)^2 + \frac{6c}{2c^2} = (5^2) \cdot x^{2 \times 2} \cdot y^2 + \left(\frac{6}{2}\right) \cdot c^{1-2} = 25x^4y^2 + 2c^{-1}$ *Note
that the rules apply to each term in the addition, but because our final terms
are still not "like terms" we cannot combine them.
4. $(3a^8)^2 + (2a^4)^4 = 3^2 a^{8 \times 2} + 2^4 a^{4 \times 4} = 9a^{16} + 16a^{16} = 25a^{16}$ *We can
combine our addition terms because they are "like terms"; our variables
have the same base and exponent.



EXONENTS REVIEW & PRACTICE PROBLEMS

5. $\left(\frac{8x^5y^3}{y}\right)^{-2} = (8 \cdot x^5 \cdot y^{3-1})^{-2} = (8 \cdot x^5 \cdot y^2)^{-2} = 8^{-2} \cdot x^{5 \times (-2)} \cdot y^{2 \times (-2)} = \frac{x^{-10}y^{-4}}{64}$ *Using BEDMAS, we simplify inside the brackets before we get to the outer exponent.

CONGRATULATIONS! As a reward for making it to the end of this worksheet, here is a cat joke:

What is a cat's favourite cereal?

MICE KRISPIES!

