

Multiplying and Dividing Radicals

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Multiplying and Dividing Radicals

This is very similar to how you would treat x and y . x^2 and x^3 . We look for things the same...

$$2x + x = 3x \text{ but } 2x + y = 2x + y$$

$$x^2(x) = x^3 \text{ but } x^2(y) = x^2y$$

$$\sqrt{8} \rightarrow \frac{2}{4}$$

$$2\sqrt{2} \quad \frac{3}{-1}$$

Let's do this but with radicals instead of x, y .

$$2\sqrt{3} \cdot 4\sqrt{6}$$

Here are the steps that we always want to follow:

1. Simplify

2. Multiply

$$\triangleright a\sqrt{b} \cdot c\sqrt{d} = ac\sqrt{bd}$$

3. Simplify

\triangleright Nothing can come out of the radical.

\triangleright No radicals in the denominator.

$$\left[\frac{\sqrt{2x}}{\sqrt{y}} = \frac{\sqrt{2x}}{\sqrt{y}} = \frac{\sqrt{2} \sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{y}} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2(4)\sqrt{3(6)} \\ 8\sqrt{18} &= 8(3)\sqrt{2} \\ &= 24\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 9 \ 2 \\ \wedge \\ 3 \ 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3\sqrt{5} \cdot 2\sqrt{72} \\ 3(2)\sqrt{5(72)} &\rightarrow 6\sqrt{360} \rightarrow 6\sqrt{36(10)} \\ &= 36\sqrt{10} \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} & 3\sqrt[3]{2x} \cdot 7\sqrt[3]{5x^2} \\ & 3(7)\sqrt[3]{2x(5x^2)} \\ & 21\sqrt[3]{10x^3} \\ & 21x\sqrt[3]{10} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt[3]{8} \\ & = \sqrt[3]{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2} \\ & = 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$2\sqrt{6}(\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{10})$$

$$2\sqrt{6(5)} - 2(2)\sqrt{6(10)}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2\sqrt{30} \quad - \quad 4\sqrt{60} \\ \swarrow \searrow \quad \quad \quad \swarrow \searrow \\ 5 \quad 6 \quad \quad \quad 30 \quad 2 \\ \swarrow \searrow \quad \quad \quad \swarrow \searrow \\ 3 \quad 2 \quad \quad \quad 6 \quad 5 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & 4\sqrt{60} \\ & = 4(2)\sqrt{15} \\ & = 8\sqrt{15} \end{aligned}$$

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

$$= 2\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{15} - 8\sqrt{5} - 4\sqrt{5(5)}$$

$$= 2\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{15} - 8\sqrt{5} - 4(5)$$

Dividing radicals works the same way. We can follow the same steps as above. Just divide instead.

$$\frac{8\sqrt{15}}{2\sqrt{3}} = 4\sqrt{\frac{15}{3}} = 4\sqrt{5}$$

$$\frac{2\sqrt{20}}{8\sqrt{5}} = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{\frac{20}{5}} = \frac{1}{4}\sqrt{4} = \frac{\sqrt{4}}{4} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{24x^2}}{\sqrt{3x}} = \sqrt{\frac{24x^2}{3x}} = \sqrt{8x} = 2\sqrt{2x}$$

If we get a radical in the denominator, we have to ditch that ... Rationalize the denominator:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{5(2^2)}{10}} &= \sqrt{\frac{20}{10}} = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{10}} = 2\sqrt{\frac{5}{10}} = 2\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} = 2\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ &= 2\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2} = \sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\sqrt{15}}{6}} = .6455 \neq \frac{5}{2\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{2(3)} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{6}$$

If there is more than just one term in the denominator, we need to bring out the conjugate!

Example:

my denominator has two terms!

$$\frac{(5\sqrt{3})}{(4-\sqrt{6})} \cdot \frac{(4+\sqrt{6})}{(4+\sqrt{6})}$$

$$= \frac{20\sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{6}(3)}{16 + \cancel{4\sqrt{6}} - \cancel{4\sqrt{6}} - \sqrt{6}(6)} = \frac{20\sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{18}}{16 - 6}$$

$$= \frac{20\sqrt{3} + 5(3)\sqrt{2}}{10} = \frac{20\sqrt{3} + 15\sqrt{2}}{10} \quad \uparrow \uparrow \text{ } \cancel{a}$$

$$\frac{6}{(\sqrt{5}+2\sqrt{2})} \cdot \frac{(\sqrt{5}-2\sqrt{2})}{(\sqrt{5}-2\sqrt{2})} = \frac{6\sqrt{5} - 12\sqrt{2}}{5 - 2\sqrt{10} + 2\sqrt{10} - 4(2)}$$

$$= \frac{6\sqrt{5} - 12\sqrt{2}}{5 - 8}$$

$$= \frac{6\sqrt{5} - 12\sqrt{2}}{-3} \quad \cancel{a}$$

$$= -2\sqrt{5} + 4\sqrt{2}$$

HW: pg 289
#1abcd,2,3,4,5ab,6,8ab,9ab,10