

# Rational Expressions

Tuesday, April 19, 2016 11:13 AM

$$= \frac{m}{n} = \frac{22}{7} \pi \quad 2\pi$$

## Let's Get Rational

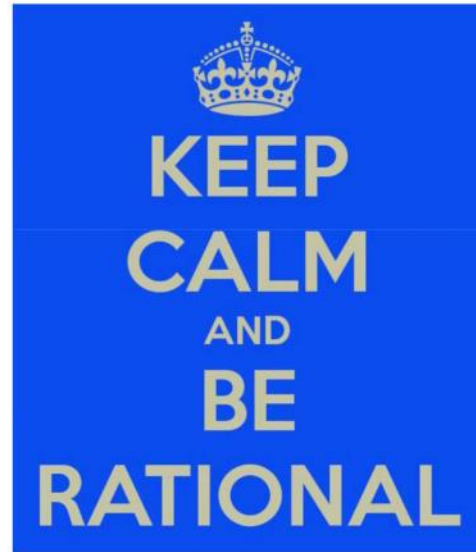
A rational expression is an algebraic fraction with a polynomial in the numerator and/or denominator.

Think of this unit as "factoring with fractions". Sound fun?

$$\frac{1}{2x}$$

$$\frac{x+2}{x^2-3x+4}$$

$$\frac{x^2+1}{1}$$



The additional rule that you have to remember is that you cannot divide by zero. As we will have variables in our denominators, this will be a possibility. We must show the non-permissible values.

Determine non permissible values: (where divide by zero is a possibility)

$$ab = 0$$

$$\frac{2x}{x-2}$$

$$x-2 \neq 0$$

$$x \neq 2$$

$$\frac{5}{2xy^3}$$

$$2xy^3 \neq 0$$

$$\uparrow \uparrow$$

$$x \neq 0 \quad y^3 \neq 0$$

$$y \neq 0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \xrightarrow{\quad} \frac{5x-6}{x^2-3x+2} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ (x-2)(x-1) \end{array} \right. \\ (x-2)(x-1) - (x-2) \\ x(x-2) - (x-2) \\ (x-2)(x-1) \end{array}$$

$$\frac{5x-6}{(x-2)(x-1)}$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} \uparrow & \uparrow \end{array}$$

$$ab = 2$$

$$a+b = -3$$

$$-2, -1$$

$$x-2 \neq 0$$

$$x \neq 2$$

$$\text{or } \frac{\quad}{\quad}$$

$$x-1 \neq 0$$

$$x \neq 1$$

$$x \neq 2, 1$$

### Factor:

1. Greatest Common Factor
  - Always. Everytime.
2. Look for a difference of squares
  - $a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$
3. Quadratic Factoring (**decomposition**)
  - We will want to factor so that we can cancel. Do not use the method of graphing, or completing the square. You need to factor.

### Simplify:

$$x + 2 \neq 0$$
$$x \neq -2$$

$$\frac{x+2}{x^2+4x+4}$$
$$\frac{(x+2)^1}{(x+2)^2}$$
$$\frac{1}{x+2}$$

$$ab = 4$$
$$a + b = 4$$
$$2, 2$$

$$(x^2 + 2x) + (2x + 4)$$
$$x(x+2) + 2(x+2)$$
$$(x+2)(x+2)$$
$$(x+2)^2$$

$$\frac{2x^2+6x}{x^2+8x+15}$$

$$\rightarrow 2x(x+3)$$

$$\frac{2x(x+3)}{(x+5)(x+3)}$$
$$\frac{2x}{x+5}$$

$$\rightarrow$$
$$(x^2 + 5x) + (3x + 15)$$
$$x(x+5) + 3(x+5)$$
$$(x+5)(x+3)$$
$$ab = 15$$
$$a + b = 8$$
$$5, 3$$

$$\frac{2x}{x+5}$$

$$(x+5)(x+3)$$

$$\rightarrow x+5 \neq 0$$

$$x \neq -5$$

OR

$$x+3 \neq 0$$

$$x \neq -3$$

$$\rightarrow x \neq -5, -3$$

$$\frac{8-2x}{x^2-16}$$

$$\rightarrow 2(4-x)$$

$$\rightarrow (x-4)(x+4)$$

$$\frac{\cancel{2(4-x)}}{\cancel{(x-4)}(x+4)}$$

$$\frac{2}{x+4}$$

$$x-4 \neq 0$$

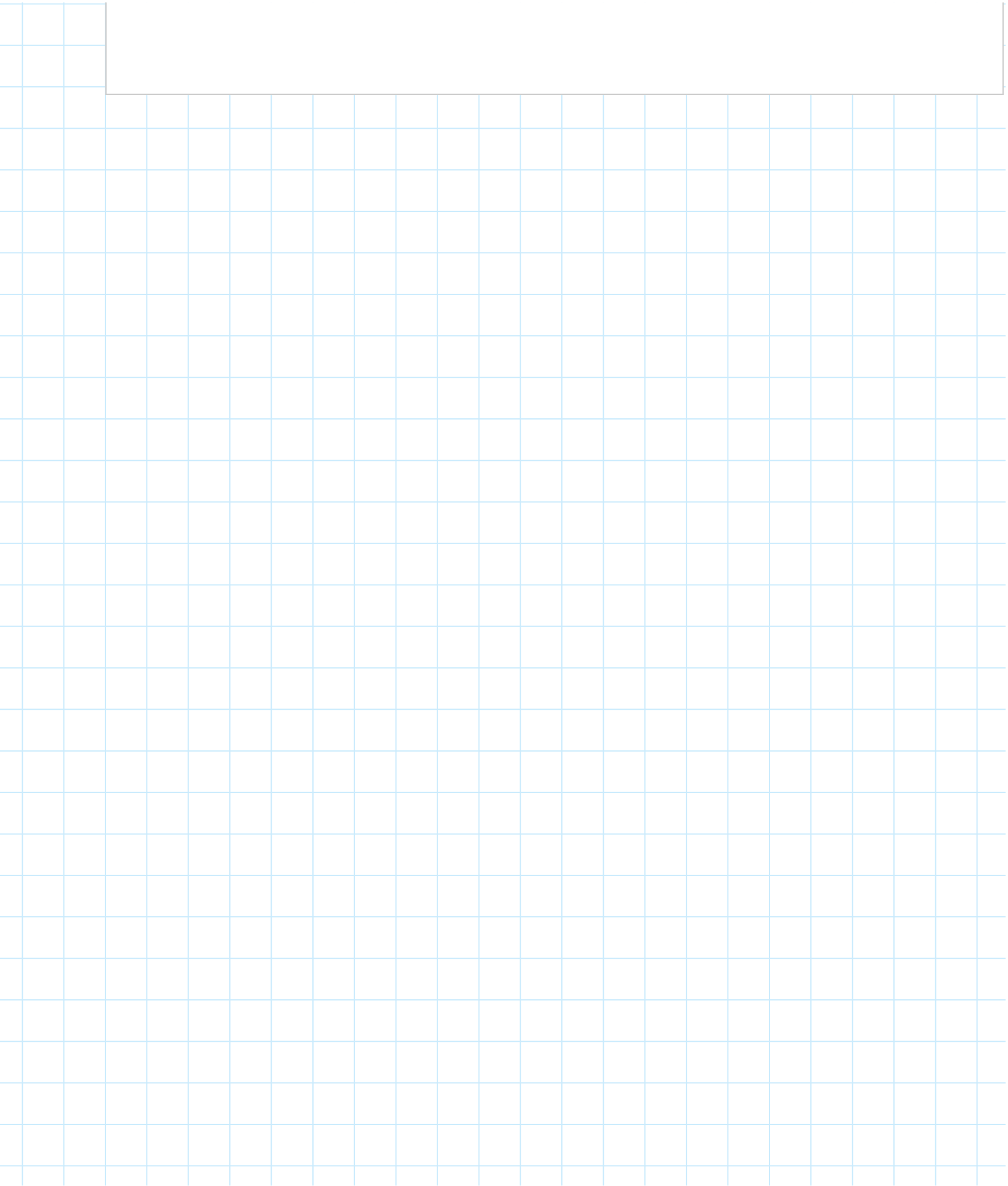
$$x \neq 4$$

$$x+4 \neq 0$$

$$x \neq -4$$

$$x \neq \pm 4$$

n



$$\frac{16x^2 - 9y^2}{8x - 6y}$$

$$\rightarrow 8x - 6y \neq 0$$

$$2(4x - 3y) \neq 0$$

$$4x - 3y \neq 0$$

$$4x \neq 3y$$

$$\left[ \frac{x \neq \frac{3y}{4}}{4} \right]$$

$\infty$

$$\frac{(4x)^2 - (3y)^2}{2(4x - 3y)}$$

$$\frac{(4x + 3y)(\cancel{4x - 3y})}{2(\cancel{4x - 3y})}$$

$$\frac{4x + 3y}{2}$$

$$4^2 = 16$$

Hw pg 317

# 3c  
4d e, 5b  
8a-f