

Radicals 4b – Simplifying with Rational Exponents

Standards: N-RN.1 & N-RN.2

#11HW:
Rads 4b
#1-17

Learning Target:

How do you simplify a radical expression with variables in it?

In the previous lesson we reviewed our rules of exponents. We can also apply these rules to rational exponents.

If $m = \frac{1}{n}$ then we can rewrite the property in radical notation:

Power of a Product: $(ab)^m = a^m b^m$

$$\sqrt[n]{a \cdot b} = \sqrt[n]{a} \cdot \sqrt[n]{b}$$

Power of a Quotient: $\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m = \frac{a^m}{b^m}$

$$\sqrt[n]{\frac{a}{b}} = \frac{\sqrt[n]{a}}{\sqrt[n]{b}}$$

Ex#1: Simplify using exponent rules. Write your answer using a radical, if needed:

a) $6^{1/2} \cdot 6^{1/3}$

$$\begin{aligned} & 3 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \cdot 2 \\ & 6^{\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6}} \\ & 6^{\frac{3+2}{6}} \\ & 6^{\frac{5}{6}} \\ & \boxed{\sqrt[6]{6^5}} \rightarrow \sqrt[6]{6^5} \end{aligned}$$

b) $(27^{1/3} \cdot 6^{1/4})^2$

$$\begin{aligned} & (27^{1/3})^2 \cdot (6^{1/4})^2 \\ & 27^{2/3} \cdot 6^{1/2} \\ & (\sqrt[3]{27})^2 \cdot (\sqrt{6}) \\ & (3)^2 \cdot \sqrt{6} \\ & 9 \cdot \sqrt{6} \\ & \boxed{9\sqrt{6}} \end{aligned}$$

c) $(4^3 \cdot 2^3)^{-1/3}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{(4^3 \cdot 2^3)^{1/3}} \\ & \frac{1}{(4^3)^{1/3} \cdot (2^3)^{1/3}} \\ & \frac{1}{4 \cdot 2} \\ & \boxed{\frac{1}{8}} \end{aligned}$$

d) $\frac{6^1}{6^{3/4}}$

$$\begin{aligned} & 6^{1 - \frac{3}{4}} \\ & 6^{1/4} \end{aligned}$$

~~$\frac{6}{2 \cdot 3}$~~

$$\boxed{\sqrt[4]{6}}$$

e) $\left(\frac{18^{1/4}}{9^{1/4}}\right)^3$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(18^{1/4})^3}{(9^{1/4})^3} \\ & \frac{18^{3/4}}{9^{3/4}} \\ & \left(\frac{18}{9}\right)^{3/4} \\ & 2^{3/4} \\ & \boxed{\left(\sqrt[4]{2}\right)^3} \quad \sqrt[4]{2^3} \\ & \sqrt[4]{8} \end{aligned}$$

f) $\frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt[6]{10}}$ $\frac{10^{1/2}}{10^{1/6}}$

$$\begin{aligned} & 10^{\frac{3}{6} - \frac{1}{6}} \\ & 10^{\frac{3-1}{6}} \\ & 10^{\frac{2}{6}} \\ & 10^{1/3} \\ & \boxed{\sqrt[3]{10}} \end{aligned}$$

Ex#2: Simplify using radical properties

a) $\sqrt[3]{25} \cdot \sqrt[3]{5}$

$$\sqrt[3]{25 \cdot 5}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{125}$$

$$\textcircled{5}$$

b) $\frac{\sqrt[3]{32}}{\sqrt[3]{4}}$ $\sqrt[3]{\frac{32}{4}}$

$$\sqrt[3]{8}$$

$$\textcircled{2}$$

c) $\frac{\sqrt[4]{162}}{\sqrt[4]{2}}$

$$\sqrt[4]{\frac{162}{2}}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{81}$$

$$\textcircled{3}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 81 \\ \wedge \\ 9 \quad 9 \\ \wedge \quad \wedge \\ \textcircled{3} \quad \textcircled{3} \quad \textcircled{3} \quad \textcircled{3} \end{array}$$

Simplest Form: apply properties of radicals & remove any perfect nth powers. Leave in Radical Form.

Ex#3: Write in Simplest Form. (No Decimals!)

a) $\sqrt[4]{64}$

$$\begin{aligned} &\sqrt[4]{2^4 \cdot 2^2} \\ &\sqrt[4]{2^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{2^2} \\ &2 \cdot \sqrt[4]{4} \\ &\boxed{2\sqrt[4]{4}} \end{aligned}$$

64
 $\begin{array}{c} 8 \quad 8 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 4 \quad 4 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 2 \quad 2 \quad 2 \quad 2 \end{array}$

b) $\sqrt[3]{270}$

$$\begin{aligned} &\sqrt[3]{3^3 \cdot 2 \cdot 5} \\ &\sqrt[3]{3^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{2 \cdot 5} \\ &3\sqrt[3]{10} \end{aligned}$$

270
 $\begin{array}{c} 27 \quad 10 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 9 \quad 3 \quad 2 \quad 5 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ 3 \quad 3 \quad 2 \quad 5 \end{array}$

We can also apply the properties of rational exponents & radicals to expressions with variables.

$$\sqrt[n]{x^n} = x \quad \text{if } n \text{ is odd}$$

$$\sqrt[n]{x^n} = |x| \quad \text{if } n \text{ is even}$$

Ex#4: Simplify. Write your answer in radical form. Assume all variables are positive.

a) $\sqrt[3]{27z^9}$

$\sqrt[3]{3^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{z^9}$
 $3 \cdot \sqrt[3]{z^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{z^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{z^3}$
 $\boxed{3z^3}$

b) $\sqrt[4]{12d^4e^9f^{14}}$

$\sqrt[4]{12} \cdot \sqrt[4]{d^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{e^9} \cdot \sqrt[4]{f^{14}}$
 $\sqrt[4]{12} \cdot d \cdot \sqrt[4]{e^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{e^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{e^1} \cdot \sqrt[4]{f^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{f^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{f^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{f^2}$
 $\sqrt[4]{12} \cdot d \cdot e^2 \cdot \sqrt[4]{e} \cdot f^3 \cdot \sqrt[4]{f^2}$
 $\boxed{de^2f^3\sqrt[4]{12ef^2}}$

c) $\sqrt[4]{320x^8y^{11}z^6}$

$\sqrt[4]{320} \cdot \sqrt[4]{x^8} \cdot \sqrt[4]{y^{11}} \cdot \sqrt[4]{z^6}$
 $\sqrt[4]{2^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5} \cdot \sqrt[4]{x^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{x^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{y^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{y^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{y^3} \cdot \sqrt[4]{z^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{z^2}$
 $2 \cdot \sqrt[4]{20} \cdot x^2 \cdot y^2 \cdot \sqrt[4]{y^3} \cdot z \cdot \sqrt[4]{z^2}$
 $\boxed{2x^2y^2z\sqrt[4]{20y^3z^2}}$

d) $\sqrt[5]{\frac{x^5}{y^{10}}}$

$\frac{\sqrt[5]{x^5}}{\sqrt[5]{y^{10}}}$
 $\frac{x}{\sqrt[5]{y^5} \cdot \sqrt[5]{y^5}}$
 $\frac{x}{y^2}$

e) $\sqrt[3]{8r^3s^5t^{10}}$

$\sqrt[3]{8} \cdot \sqrt[3]{r^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{s^5} \cdot \sqrt[3]{t^{10}}$
 $2 \cdot r \cdot \sqrt[3]{s^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{s^2} \cdot \sqrt[3]{t^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{t^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{t^3} \cdot \sqrt[3]{t^1}$
 $\boxed{2rst^3\sqrt[3]{s^2t}}$

Ex#5: Simplify. Assume all variables are positive. Write your answer in exponential form using only positive exponents.

a) $(16g^4h^2)^{1/2}$

① $\sqrt{16g^4h^2}$
 $\sqrt{16} \cdot \sqrt{g^4} \cdot \sqrt{h^2}$
 $4 \cdot \sqrt{g^2} \cdot \sqrt{h^2} \cdot h$
 $4g^2h$

② $(16)^{1/2} \cdot (g^4)^{1/2} \cdot (h^2)^{1/2}$
 $\sqrt{16} \cdot g^2 \cdot h$
 $4g^2h$

b) $\frac{18rs^{2/3}}{6r^{1/4}t^{-3}}$

$\frac{18 \cdot r}{6} \cdot \frac{r}{r^{1/4}} \cdot \frac{s^{2/3}}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{t^{-3}}$
 $3 \cdot r^{1-1/4} \cdot s^{2/3} \cdot t^3$
 $3r^{3/4} s^{2/3} t^3$

c) $(625j^8k^4)^{1/4}$

① $\sqrt[4]{625j^8k^4}$
 $\sqrt[4]{625} \cdot \sqrt[4]{j^8} \cdot \sqrt[4]{k^4}$
 $\sqrt[4]{5^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{j^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{j^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{k^4}$
 $5j^2k$

② $(625)^{1/4} \cdot (j^8)^{1/4} \cdot (k^4)^{1/4}$
 $\sqrt[4]{625} \cdot j^2 \cdot k$
 $5j^2k$

d) $\frac{15d^2e^{2/3}f}{5df^4}$

$\frac{15}{5} \cdot \frac{d^2}{d} \cdot \frac{e^{2/3}}{1} \cdot \frac{f}{f^4}$
 $3 \cdot d \cdot e^{2/3} \cdot f^{-3}$
 $3de^{2/3}f^{-3}$

e) $x^{2/3}$

$x^{-1/2} \cdot x^{3/4}$

$\frac{x^{2/3}}{x^{1/2 + 3/4}} \rightarrow \frac{x^{2/3}}{x^{5/4}} \rightarrow \frac{x^{2/3}}{x^{5/4}}$

$4 \cdot \frac{2}{3} - \frac{5}{4} \cdot \frac{3}{3}$

$x^{8/12 - 15/12}$

$x^{-7/12}$

$x^{-7/12}$

$\frac{1}{x^{7/12}}$