

Tip. When simplifying radical expressions, it is helpful to rewrite a number using its prime factorization and cancel powers.

Example. $108 = 2^2 3^3$ so $\sqrt[3]{108} = \sqrt[3]{2^2 3^3} = 3\sqrt[3]{2^2} = 3\sqrt[3]{4}$

1. Evaluate each expression.

(a) $(-3)^4$

(b) -3^4

(c) $\left(\frac{1}{8}\right)^2 \cdot (-2)^3$

(d) $(-2)^5$

(e) -2^5

(f) $(-6)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^2$

(g) $\left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^0 \cdot 3^{-1}$

(h) $\frac{3^{-2}}{5^0}$

(i) $\left(\frac{-2}{5}\right)^{-2}$

(j) $5^2 \cdot 5$

(k) $5^8 \cdot 5^{-6}$

(l) $5^{-8} \cdot 5^6$

(m) $(2^3)^2$

(n) $\frac{10^8}{10^5}$

(o) $\frac{10^2}{10^{-2}}$

2. Simplify.

(a) $\sqrt{12}$

(b) $\sqrt{18}$

(c) $\sqrt[3]{250}$

(d) $\sqrt[5]{243}$

(e) $\sqrt[5]{486}$

(f) $\sqrt[4]{162}$

(g) $\sqrt{\frac{27}{16}}$

(h) $\frac{\sqrt{18}}{\sqrt{36}}$

(i) $5\sqrt[3]{81}$

(j) $\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{6}$

(k) $\sqrt{14} \cdot \sqrt{32}$

(l) $\frac{\sqrt{80}}{\sqrt{5}}$

(m) $\sqrt[3]{500}$

(n) $\sqrt[4]{24} \cdot \sqrt[4]{14}$

(o) $\frac{\sqrt{63}}{\sqrt{7}}$

(p) $\sqrt[5]{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \sqrt[5]{\frac{1}{16}}$

3. Simplify each expression and eliminate negative exponents.

(a) $x^5 \cdot x^8$

(b) $(2x^3)^2$

(c) $x^{-3} \cdot x^5$

(d) $y^6 \cdot y^9$

(e) $(3x)^3$

(f) $y^7 \cdot y^{-3}$

(g) $z^{-8} \cdot z^3$

(h) $x^{-2}x^{-6}x^4$

(i) $\frac{x^{15}}{x^{10}}$

(j) $y^3 \cdot y^{-9}$

(k) $w^5 w^{-8} w^4$

(l) $\frac{x^8 x^0}{x^{12}}$

(m) $\frac{b^8 b^{-3}}{b}$

(n) $(z^3 z^5)^2$

(o) $(3x^4) \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^3$

(p) $\frac{y^3 y^5}{y^2 y^{-3}}$

(q) $(-2b^3 b^3)^3$

(r) $(-3x^2)^2 (2x^{-2})^3$

4. Simplify each expression and eliminate negative exponents.

(a) $\frac{xy}{7x^{-4}y^{-2}}$

(b) $\frac{7y^6}{4y^5 z^4}$

(c) $(x^3 y^{-5})(2x^{-4} y^2)(4xy^5)$

(d) $(xw)(6x^{-6} w^{-4})$

(e) $(w \cdot 4w^2 \cdot w^2)^3$

(f) $\left(\frac{y^2}{y}\right)^3$

(g) $(3x \cdot 4x^2)^3$

(h) $\left(\frac{2y^4}{4y}\right)^2$

(i) $\left(\frac{9z}{8z^6}\right)^3$

(j) $\frac{x^{-3} y^{-2}}{y^{-1}}$

(k) $\left(\frac{a^3 b^{-2}}{a^{-3} b^2}\right)^3$

(l) $\left(\frac{x}{y^2}\right)^5 \left(\frac{x^2 y^3}{z^2}\right)^3$

(m) $\frac{(a^{-1} b^3)^2}{(a^2 b^{-3})^3}$

(n) $\left(\frac{x^2 z^4}{2y^5}\right) \left(\frac{3x^2 y^3}{z^2}\right)^2$

(o) $\frac{(w^2 v)^3}{(w^2 v^{-3})^2}$

(p) $\frac{16x^3 y^{-5}}{4x^{-6} y^8}$

(q) $\left(\frac{w}{3x^{-3}}\right)^{-2}$

(r) $\left(\frac{2x^{-1} y}{x^{-3} y^{-2}}\right)^{-3}$

5. Express the following in the form x^r .

(a) $(\sqrt[5]{x})^6$

(b) $\sqrt[8]{x^3}$

(c) $\frac{1}{(\sqrt{x})^5}$

(d) $\frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{x^4}}$

(e) $\sqrt[4]{\sqrt[3]{x}}$

(f) $\sqrt{\frac{1}{\sqrt[5]{x}}}$

6. Express the following in the form x^r .

(a) $x^{\frac{5}{2}} x^3$

(b) $\frac{x^{\frac{6}{7}}}{x^4}$

(c) $(x^3)^{-\frac{4}{5}}$

(d) $x^{\frac{7}{5}} x^{-\frac{8}{3}}$

(e) $(x^{\frac{2}{3}})^{\frac{4}{9}}$

(f) $\frac{1}{x^{\frac{5}{2}}}$

(g) $\left(\frac{1}{x^3}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$

(h) $\frac{1}{x\sqrt{x}}$

(i) $x^2 (\sqrt[3]{x})$

(j) $\frac{x}{x^{\frac{5}{2}}}$

(k) $\frac{x^{\frac{1}{3}}}{x}$

(l) $\frac{1}{x^{-\frac{5}{4}}}$

7. Simplify and eliminate negative exponents. Assume that all letters denote positive numbers.

(a) $x^{\frac{2}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{4}{3}}$

(b) $a^{\frac{3}{5}} \cdot a^{\frac{12}{5}}$

(c) $(9x)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot (4x^{\frac{1}{4}})$

(d) $((2b)^{\frac{2}{9}})^3 \cdot (2b)^{\frac{1}{3}}$

(e) $\frac{x^{\frac{3}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^{\frac{5}{2}}}$

(f) $(27z^3)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$

(g) $(x^5 y^4)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

(h) $(-8x^6 y^{-18})^{-\frac{1}{3}}$

$y^{-1} (yx^{\frac{1}{2}})^{\frac{2}{3}}$

(i) $\left(\frac{a^{\frac{3}{2}}}{b^{-\frac{1}{2}}}\right)^4 \left(\frac{a^{-2}}{b^3}\right)$

(j) $\left(\frac{x^6 y^{-3}}{27y^{\frac{3}{5}}}\right)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$

Answers

1. (a) 81 (b) -81 (c) $-1/8$ (d) -32 (e) -32 (f) 1 (g) $1/3$ (h) $1/9$
 (i) $25/4$ (j) 125 (k) 25 (l) $1/25$ (m) 64 (n) 1000 (o) 10,000

2. (a) $2\sqrt{3}$ (b) $3\sqrt{2}$ (c) $5\sqrt[3]{2}$ (d) 3 (e) $3\sqrt[5]{2}$ (f) $3\sqrt[4]{2}$ (g) $\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{4}$ (h) $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$
 (i) $15\sqrt[3]{3}$ (j) $2\sqrt{3}$ (k) $8\sqrt{7}$ (l) 4 (m) $5\sqrt[3]{4}$ (n) $2\sqrt[4]{21}$ (o) 3 (p) $\frac{1}{2}$

3. (a) x^{13} (b) $4x^6$ (c) x^2 (d) y^{15} (e) $27x^3$ (f) y^4 (g) $\frac{1}{z^5}$ (h) $\frac{1}{x^4}$ (i) x^5
 (j) $\frac{1}{y^6}$ (k) w (l) $\frac{1}{x^4}$ (m) b^4 (n) z^{16} (o) $\frac{x^7}{9}$ (p) y^9 (q) $-8b^{18}$ (r) $\frac{72}{x^2}$

4. (a) $\frac{x^5y^3}{7}$ (b) $\frac{7y}{4z^4}$ (c) $8y^2$ (d) $\frac{6}{x^5w^3}$ (e) $64w^{15}$ (f) y^3 (g) $1728x^9$ (h) $\frac{y^6}{4}$
 (i) $\frac{729}{512z^{15}}$ (j) $\frac{1}{x^3y}$ (k) $\frac{a^{18}}{b^{12}}$ (l) $\frac{x^{11}}{yz^6}$ (m) $\frac{b^{15}}{a^8}$ (n) $\frac{9x^6y}{2}$ (o) w^2v^9 (p) $\frac{4x^9}{y^{13}}$
 (q) $\frac{9}{w^2x^6}$ (r) $\frac{1}{8x^6y^9}$

5. (a) $x^{\frac{6}{5}}$ (b) $x^{\frac{3}{8}}$ (c) $x^{-\frac{5}{2}}$ (d) $x^{-\frac{4}{3}}$ (e) $x^{\frac{1}{12}}$ (f) $x^{-\frac{1}{10}}$

6. (a) $x^{\frac{11}{2}}$ (b) $x^{-\frac{22}{7}}$ (c) $x^{-\frac{12}{5}}$ (d) $x^{-\frac{19}{15}}$ (e) $x^{\frac{8}{27}}$ (f) $x^{-\frac{5}{2}}$ (g) x^2 (h) $x^{-\frac{3}{2}}$
 (i) $x^{\frac{7}{3}}$ (j) $x^{\frac{3}{5}}$ (k) $x^{-\frac{2}{3}}$ (l) $x^{\frac{5}{4}}$

7. (a) x^2 (b) a^3 (c) $12x^{\frac{3}{4}}$ (d) $2b$ (e) $\frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$ (f) $\frac{1}{9z^2}$ (g) $\frac{1}{x^{\frac{5}{2}}y^2}$ (h) $\frac{-y^6}{2x^2}$
 (i) $\frac{x^{\frac{1}{3}}}{y^{\frac{1}{3}}}$ (j) $\frac{a^4}{b}$ (k) $\frac{3y^{\frac{6}{5}}}{x^2}$

Simplifying Absolute Value Problems

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Date_____ Period____

Evaluate each expression.

1) $| -1 - 2 |$

2) $9 \div (| 3 |)$

3) $| 1 - 4 | \times -2$

4) $-\frac{12}{| -1 | + 1}$

5) $| 1 - -3 | + | 5 |$

6) $(| 3 - 3 | - -4) \times 5$

Evaluate each using the values given.

7) $b - | a |$; use $a = 5$, and $b = 6$

8) $| x + y |$; use $x = 3$, and $y = -5$

9) $q - | r |$; use $q = 3$, and $r = -1$

10) $| j - h |$; use $h = 5$, and $j = 6$

$$11) \ x - (|z| + x); \text{ use } x = 6, \text{ and } z = 3$$

$$12) \ 6|x + y|; \text{ use } x = 1, \text{ and } y = 1$$

$$13) \ (|p + q|) \div 5; \text{ use } p = -2, \text{ and } q = -3$$

$$14) \ j(h - |h|); \text{ use } h = -1, \text{ and } j = 5$$

$$15) \ |2| + h + |j|; \text{ use } h = 6, \text{ and } j = -4$$

$$16) \ |x - y| + y - 1; \text{ use } x = -3, \text{ and } y = -6$$

$$17) \ 3 - (p + |m - m|); \text{ use } m = 4, \text{ and } p = -4$$

$$18) \ n(m + |-1|) - n; \text{ use } m = 1, \text{ and } n = -6$$

$$19) \ |ab| - |b| + b; \text{ use } a = 3, \text{ and } b = 6$$

$$20) \ x - (x + y - |-x|); \text{ use } x = -2, \text{ and } y = 4$$

Simplifying Absolute Value Problems

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Evaluate each expression.

1) $| -1 - 2 |$

3

2) $9 \div (| 3 |)$

3

3) $| 1 - 4 | \times -2$

-6

4) $-\frac{12}{| -1 | + 1}$

-6

5) $| 1 - -3 | + | 5 |$

9

6) $(| 3 - 3 | - -4) \times 5$

20

Evaluate each using the values given.

7) $b - | a |$; use $a = 5$, and $b = 6$

1

8) $| x + y |$; use $x = 3$, and $y = -5$

2

9) $q - | r |$; use $q = 3$, and $r = -1$

2

10) $| j - h |$; use $h = 5$, and $j = 6$

1

11) $x - (|z| + x)$; use $x = 6$, and $z = 3$

-3

12) $6|x + y|$; use $x = 1$, and $y = 1$

12

13) $(|p + q|) \div 5$; use $p = -2$, and $q = -3$

1

14) $j(h - |h|)$; use $h = -1$, and $j = 5$

-10

15) $|2| + h + |j|$; use $h = 6$, and $j = -4$

12

16) $|x - y| + y - 1$; use $x = -3$, and $y = -6$

-4

17) $3 - (p + |m - m|)$; use $m = 4$, and $p = -4$

7

18) $n(m + |-1|) - n$; use $m = 1$, and $n = -6$

-6

19) $|ab| - |b| + b$; use $a = 3$, and $b = 6$

18

20) $x - (x + y - |-x|)$; use $x = -2$, and $y = 4$

-2