

Lesson 5.7 Laws of Exponents

Goal: Apply exponent laws to simplify and evaluate exponential expressions

A **power** is an expression made up of two parts: the _____ and the _____

$$5^4 \rightarrow \text{base: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ exponent: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \quad 7^{-2} \rightarrow \text{base: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ exponent: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$(-5)^4 \rightarrow \text{base: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ exponent: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \quad -5^4 \rightarrow \text{base: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ exponent: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

$$x^3 \rightarrow \text{base: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ exponent: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \quad (3x)^3 \rightarrow \text{base: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \text{ exponent: } \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Mathematically, a power is the **repeated multiplication** of the base an “exponent” number of times

In expanded form $5^4 = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$ and $(-5)^4 = \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$

If the exponent is not shown, its value is _____. For example... $x = x$ $2 = 2$

MULTIPLICATION LAW: When I multiply powers with the SAME base, I _____ the exponents

$$5^5 \times 5^4 = \quad (2x)(4x^2) =$$

DIVISION LAW: When I divide powers with the SAME base, I _____ the exponents

$$(-6)^{10} \div (-6)^{-2} = \quad \frac{3x^4y^5}{6x^2y} =$$

POWER OF A POWER LAW: When an exponent is raised to another exponent, I _____ exponents

$$(3^4)^5 = \quad (-x^3)^7 =$$

POWER OF A PRODUCT OR QUOTIENT LAW: To simplify a power of two (or more) items multiplied and/or divided, I _____ the exponent to each item being multiplied and/or divided

$$(-3x^4)^3 = \quad \left(\frac{4y^5}{6x^2}\right)^2 =$$

ZERO EXPONENT LAW: ANY base raised to an exponent of ‘zero’ is equal to _____

$$(3x^2y^{-6})^0 = \quad \left((3^2)^4\right)^0 =$$

NEGATIVE EXPONENT LAW: Any base raised to a negative exponent is equal to the _____ of the base raised to the same _____ exponent

$$3x^{-4}y^{-3}z = \quad \left(\frac{1}{5}\right)^{-2} =$$

SUMMARY OF EXPONENT LAWS

$$a^m \times a^n =$$

$$a^m \div a^n =$$

$$(a^m)^n =$$

$$a^0 =$$

$$(ab)^m =$$

$$a^{-m} =$$

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

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

To SIMPLIFY means to write expressions with POSITIVE EXPONENTS only

EXAMPLES

First **simplify** each of the following and then **evaluate** for $a = 1$, $b = -2$, and $c = 3$

a) $(a^{-2}b)(a^{-3}b^4)$

b) $\frac{a^{-4}b^5c^2}{ab^3c}$

c) $(2a^2b)^5$

d) $\frac{25ab}{(5a)^3b^2}$