

# Multiplying Monomials

vocabulary

ex.

a constant

-7 (usually a #)

a variable

x (unknown)

a product of a constant  
and one or more variables

$4x^3$   
or  $-5xy$

base

the "thing" that  
is repeatedly multiplied

exponent

amt. of times to  
repeat the base

base w/ exponent

AKA. base raised to a power.

$x^n$  or  $3^4$   
base ↑ exponent ↓  
↓  
 $3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3$

$x^5$   
↓  
 $x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x$

## vocabulary

monomial

a variable or a product of a numeral & one or more variables

ex.  $2x$        $-3xy^2z$

binomial

a polynomial w/ 2 terms

ex.  $2x + 3y$

trinomial

a polynomial w/ 3 terms

ex.  $4x^2 + 2x - 3$

polynomial

a monomial or the sum of 2 or more monomials

$-4xy$       or       $-4xy + 2x + 3y$

Multiply monomial  
multiply like bases

add the exponents

$$\begin{array}{c} x^2 \cdot x^5 \\ \underbrace{\quad \quad} \quad \underbrace{\quad \quad} \\ x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \\ \underbrace{\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad} \\ x^8 \end{array}$$

for all real #'s  $b \in \mathbb{R}$   
all positive integers  
 $m \in \mathbb{N}, n \in \mathbb{N}, b^m \cdot b^n = b^{m+n}$

$$b^m \cdot b^n = b^{m+n}$$

ex

$$\begin{array}{c} x^2 y^3 \\ x x y y y \\ x^2 y^3 \end{array}$$

} only add exponents  
when bases are  
the same

Power of a Power

multiply powers

$$\begin{array}{c} (x^2)^5 \\ \underbrace{\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad} \\ x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2 \\ \underbrace{\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad} \\ x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \\ \underbrace{\quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad} \\ x^{10} \end{array}$$

for all real #'s  $a \in \mathbb{R}$   
and all positive  
integers  $m, n$   
 $(b^m)^n = b^{mn}$

$$(b^m)^n = b^{mn}$$

## Power of a Product

give exponent  
to each factor

$$(2x)^3$$

$$2x \cdot 2x \cdot 2x$$

rearranged

$$2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x$$

$$2^3 \cdot x^3$$

$$8x^3$$

simplified  
& simplified

For all real #'s  $a$  &  $b$   
and all  $\oplus$  integers  $m$ ,  
 $(ab)^m = a^m b^m$

$$(ab)^m = a^m b^m$$

## Quotient of Power

subtract exponents  
of like bases

$$\frac{x^7}{x^3}$$

$$\frac{xxxxxxx}{xxx}$$

$$\frac{\cancel{xxxx} \cancel{xxx}}{\cancel{xxx}}$$

$$xxxx$$

$$x^4$$

# zero exponent & Negative exponents

Watch the pattern  
~~study!~~

as you reduce #  
it is like you  
are dividing by the  
base.

~~Power~~  
~~Power~~

$$2^4 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$$

$$2^3 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2$$

$$2^2 = 2 \cdot 2$$

$$2^1 = 2$$

$$2^0 = 1$$

$$2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$2^{-2} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 2}$$

$$2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2}$$

Rules

$$b^{-n} = \frac{1}{b^n}$$

And

$$\frac{1}{b^{-n}} = b^n$$

when you have a  
negative exponent  
if you move it to  
the other height (top/bottom)  
it becomes positive

ex

$$x^{-3} = \frac{1}{x^3}$$

or

$$\frac{1}{x^{-4}} = \frac{x^4}{1}$$

Negative exponents

zero exponent

$$b^0 = 1$$

Any base to the  
zero power equals 1