

Review

Definitions and Properties of Exponents

The following summary assumes that no denominators are 0 and that 0^0 is not considered. For any integers m and n ,

$$1 \text{ as an exponent: } a^1 = a$$

$$0 \text{ as an exponent: } a^0 = 1$$

$$\text{Negative exponents: } a^{-n} = \frac{1}{a^n}$$

$$\frac{a^{-n}}{b^{-m}} = \frac{b^m}{a^n}$$

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

$$\text{The Product Rule: } a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}$$

$$\text{The Quotient Rule: } \frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$$

$$\text{The Power Rule: } (a^m)^n = a^{mn}$$

$$\text{Raising a product to a power: } (ab)^n = a^n b^n$$

$$\text{Raising a quotient to a power: } \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}$$

Example 1: Multiply and simplify

a.) $(3x^3y^8)(-2x^4y^5)$

b.) $(-3a^2b^3c^4)(-7a^3b^7c^{11})$

c.) $3x(4x-7)$

d.) $4rs^2(r^2-2s^2)$

Example 1 continued:

e.) $(x^2 - 5)(4x^2 + 3)$

f.) $(r + 3)(r^2 - 5r + 2)$

Example 2: Sometimes it can be easier to multiply vertically.

a.) $(3x^2 - 5x + 2)(2x^2 + x - 4)$

FOIL it before it foils you.

Example 3: Multiply

a.) $(x+4)(x-3)$

b.) $(3x-4y)(x-2y)$

c.) $(r-2)(r+3)(r-4)$

Question: Does $(x+4)^2 = x^2 + 16$? Discuss this with your neighbors and figure it out.

It's worth memorizing the square of a binomial (*perfect squares*):

- $(A+B)^2 = A^2 + 2AB + B^2$
- $(A-B)^2 = A^2 - 2AB + B^2$

The picture can help.

Example 4:

a.) $(x-3)^2$

b.) $(4x+3y)^2$

c.) $\left(5y^3 - \frac{1}{2}z\right)^2$

Explore the *difference of squares* to find the pattern:

a.) $(x-3)(x+3)$

b.) $(x+4)(x-4)$

The *difference of squares* formula:

Example 5: Multiply

a.) $(r-7)(r+7)$

b.) $(3xy+2z^2)(3xy-2z^2)$

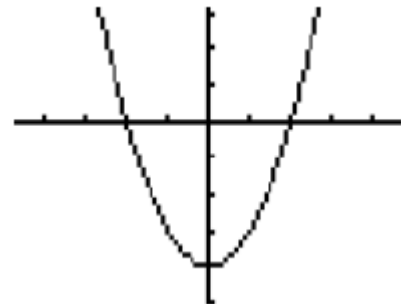
c.) $\left(\frac{2}{3}n-m^3\right)\left(\frac{2}{3}n+m^3\right)$

d.) $(3x+5y)(-3x+5y)$

Example 6: Multiply

a.) $(2t-3)^2 - (t+2)(t-2)$

Connection with functions: The given graph shows $f(x) = (x-2)(x+2) = x^2 - 4$. Do you see any connections between the symbolic representation and the graph?



Example 7: Suppose $f(x) = x^2 - 3x + 2$. Find the following:

a.) $f(a)$

b.) $f(a) + 3$

c.) $f(a+3)$

d.) $f(a+h)$

e.) $f(a+h) - f(a)$