

INDICES AND ROOTS

Algebra

Key Concepts

$$a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$$

$$a^m \div a^n = a^{m-n}$$

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

$$a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$$

$$a^{-m} = \frac{1}{a^m}$$

Examples

Simplify each of the following:

$$1) a^6 \times a^4 = a^{6+4} \\ = a^{10}$$

$$4) (3a^4)^3 = 3^3 a^{4 \times 3} \\ = 27a^{12}$$

$$6) a^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{a}$$

$$2) a^6 \div a^4 = a^{6-4} \\ = a^2$$

$$5) \frac{5^2 \times 5^6}{5^4} = \frac{5^8}{5^4} \\ = 5^{8-4}$$

$$7) 9^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{9} \\ = 3 \text{ or } -3$$

$$3) (a^6)^4 = a^{6 \times 4} \\ = a^{24}$$

$$= 5^4$$

$$8) 2^{-3} = \frac{1}{2^3} = \frac{1}{8}$$



29 82 154 188 131

Key Words

Powers
Roots
Indices
Reciprocal

Simplify:

$$1) a^3 \times a^2 \quad 2) b^4 \times b \quad 3) d^{-5} \times d^{-1} \quad 4) m^6 \div m^2 \quad 5) n^4 \div n^4$$

$$6) \frac{8^4 \times 8^5}{8^6} \quad 7) \frac{4^9 \times 4}{4^3} \quad 8) (3^2)^5 \quad 9) 81^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad 10) 5^{-2}$$