

2.2 - Operations with Radicals



Ex. Like or unlike?

- a) $3\sqrt{2}, 5\sqrt{2}, -3\sqrt{2}$
- b) $\sqrt{8}, \sqrt{2}, \sqrt{32}$
- c) $\sqrt{3}, 5\sqrt{5}$

like
like
unlike

*simplify all radicals
*combine like radicals

A. Adding and Subtracting Like Radicals

a) $\sqrt{27} + \sqrt{20} - \sqrt{12} + \sqrt{45}$
 $= 3\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{3} + 3\sqrt{5}$
 $= \sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{5}$

b) $7\sqrt{2} - 6\sqrt{63} - \sqrt{28} + 5\sqrt{18}$
 $= 7\sqrt{2} - 18\sqrt{7} - 2\sqrt{7} + 15\sqrt{2}$
 $= 22\sqrt{2} - 20\sqrt{7}$

B. Multiplying Radicals

*multiply first, then simplify

a) $\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{6} + 5)$
 $= \sqrt{3}\sqrt{6} + 5\sqrt{3}$
 $= \sqrt{18} + 5\sqrt{3}$
 $= 3\sqrt{2} + 5\sqrt{3}$

$4\sqrt{5}(2\sqrt{8} - 3\sqrt{5})$
 $= 8\sqrt{5}\sqrt{8} - 12\sqrt{5}\sqrt{5}$
 $= 8\sqrt{40} - 12\sqrt{25}$
 $= 8\sqrt{4}\sqrt{10} - 60$
 $= 16\sqrt{10} - 60$

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FOIL!!!

c) $(2\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{5})(4\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{5})$
 $= 8(3) + 4\sqrt{15} - 4\sqrt{15} - 2(5)$
 $= 24 - 10$
 $= 14$

d) $(2\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3})^2 = (2\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3})(2\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3})$
 $= 4(5) - 2(2\sqrt{15}) + 3$
 $= 20 - 4\sqrt{15} + 3$
 $= 23 - 4\sqrt{15}$

C. Rationalizing Denominators

Ensure no radicals in denom.

a) $\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}}$
 $= \frac{2\sqrt{5}}{5}$

b) $\frac{3\sqrt{5}}{4\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$
 $= \frac{3\sqrt{5}\sqrt{2}}{4(2)}$
 $= \frac{3\sqrt{10}}{8}$

c) $\frac{5\sqrt{10}}{15\sqrt{20}}$
 $= \frac{\sqrt{10}}{3\sqrt{4}\sqrt{5}}$
 $= \frac{1}{3\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$
 $= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{6}$

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What if the denominator is more complicated and it needs rationalization?

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{5}{2\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{2\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{3}} \\
 & = \frac{10\sqrt{6}+5\sqrt{3}}{4(6)+2\sqrt{18}-2\sqrt{18}-3} \\
 & = \frac{10\sqrt{6}+5\sqrt{3}}{21}
 \end{aligned}$$

You must multiply by the **conjugate**.

The conjugate of $a+b$ is $a-b$.
ie. Change the sign between the two terms



Note: See a pattern?

Manufacturing a Difference of Squares!

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{10}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{10}} \\
 & = \frac{\sqrt{12}+\sqrt{20}+\sqrt{30}+\sqrt{50}}{6-10} \\
 & = \frac{2\sqrt{3}+2\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{30}+5\sqrt{2}}{-4} \\
 & = -\frac{(2\sqrt{3}+2\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{30}+5\sqrt{2})}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

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Practice - p. 139 #1ac, 2ce, 3acg, 5cgi, 6ag, 7 aegj, 13, 17ace, 19a



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