

5.1 Operations with Polynomials  
Honors Algebra 2

	Expanded Form	Simplified
1. $a^5 \cdot a^2$	$a a a a a \cdot a a$	$a^7$
2. $(a^5)^2$	$a^5 \cdot a^5$	$a^{10}$
3. $(4a^2)^3$	$4a^2 \cdot 4a^2 \cdot 4a^2$	$64a^6$
4. $(3a^2b^3)^4$	$3a^2b^3 \cdot 3a^2b^3 \cdot 3a^2b^3 \cdot 3a^2b^3$	$81a^8b^{12}$

$$3 \cdot 4^2 = 3 \cdot 16$$

$$= 48$$

$$(3 \cdot 4)^2 = 3^2 4^2$$

$$= 9 \cdot 16$$

$$= 144$$

$$(-3 \cdot 4)^2 = (-3)^2 (4)^2$$

$$= 9 \cdot 16$$

$$= 144$$

$$-(3 \cdot 4)^2 = -(3^2 4^2)$$

$$= -144$$

Rules for Multiplying Monomials

Product of Powers	$a^m \cdot a^n$	$a^{m+n}$
Power of a Power	$(a^m)^n$	$a^{mn}$
Power of Products	$(ab)^m$	$a^m b^m$
Power of a Monomial	$(a^m b^n)^p$	$a^{mp} b^{np}$

Examples - Simplify the following:

5. $\left(\frac{1}{2}a^2b\right)^3 = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 a^6 b^3$ $= \frac{1}{8} a^6 b^3$	6. $(2a^4)(3a^3b)(-4a^2b^3)^2$ $= 6a^7b(16a^4b^6)$ $= 96a^{11}b^7$
7. $9\left(\frac{1}{3}a^3b^4\right)^2 = 9\left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 (a^6 b^8)$ $= 9\left(\frac{1}{9}\right) a^6 b^8$ $= a^6 b^8$	8. $(-4x^5)^3$ $= (-4)^3 x^{15}$ $= -64x^{15}$
9. $(-5a^3)^2 + (3a)^3$ $25a^6 + 9a^3$	10. $(5a^3)^2 + (2a^2)^3$ $25a^6 + 8a^6$ $33a^6$

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	Expanded Form	Simplified
11. $\frac{a^5}{a^3}$	$\frac{a \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}}{\cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}}$	$a^2$
12. $\frac{a^3}{a^5}$	$\frac{\cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}}{a \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}}$	$\frac{1}{a^2}$
13. $\frac{4a^2b^3}{8ab^5}$	$\frac{4 \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{b} \cancel{b} \cancel{b}}{8 \cancel{a} \cancel{b} \cancel{b} \cancel{b} \cancel{b}}$	$\frac{a}{2b^2}$
14. $\frac{a^4}{a^4}$	$\frac{\cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}}{\cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a} \cancel{a}}$	1

Rules for Dividing Monomials

Quotient of Powers	$\frac{a^m}{a^n}$	$a^{m-n}$
Zero Exponent	$a^0$	1
Negative Exponent	$a^{-1}$	$\frac{1}{a}$

Examples- Simplify the following:

15. $\frac{144x^5y^3z^4}{12x^6y^2z^4}$ $= \frac{12}{xy^5}$	16. $\frac{(3x^5)^2}{(-2x^3)^3} = (9x^{10})(-2x^3)^3$ $= (9x^{10})(-8x^9)$ $= -72x^{19}$
17. $\frac{x^5y^2}{xy^3} = \frac{x^4}{y}$	18. $\left(\frac{2a^3}{b^{-4}}\right)^{-2} = \frac{(2a^3)^{-2}}{(b^{-4})^{-2}}$ $= \frac{1}{(2a^3)^2 b^8} = \frac{1}{4a^6b^8}$
19. $\frac{(x^4y^{-7})^0}{(-3)^2} = \frac{1}{9}$	20. $\frac{1}{x^0 + y^0} = \frac{1}{2}$

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**Degree of a Polynomial:** the degree of the monomial with the greatest degree.

What is the degree of:

$f(x) = 6x^7 + 9x^2 + 3x^{10}$ $10^{\text{th}}$ degree	$f(x) = x^2 + 2x^3 - x$ $3^{\text{rd}}$ degree
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**Simplify:**

<p>1. <math>(4x^3 - 4x^2 - 3x) + (-5x^3 - 2x^2 - 4)</math></p> $= -x^3 + 2x^2 - 3x - 4$	<p>2. <math>(-4x^3 + 6x^2 - 3) - (3x^4 + 4x^2 + 7x + 12)</math></p> $= -4x^3 + 6x^2 - 3 - 3x^4 - 4x^2 - 7x - 12$ $= -3x^4 - 4x^3 + 2x^2 - 7x - 15$
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**Multiplying Polynomials:** Distribute, combine like terms, and write in descending order.

<p>3. <math>(x - 5)(x^2 - 2x + 3) = x(x^2 - 2x + 3) + (-5)(x^2 - 2x + 3)</math></p> $= x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x - 5x^2 + 10x - 15$ $= x^3 - 7x^2 + 13x - 15$	<p>4. <math>(2x^3 + 5x^2 - 6x + 1)(3x - 2)</math></p> $= 3x(2x^3 + 5x^2 - 6x + 1) + (-2)(2x^3 + 5x^2 - 6x + 1)$ $= 6x^4 + 15x^3 - 18x^2 + 3x +$ $- 4x^3 - 10x^2 + 12x - 2$ $= 6x^4 + 11x^3 - 28x^2 + 15x - 2$
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