


Finding the square root of a number and squaring a number are \_\_\_\_\_ operations. To find the square root of a number  $a$ , you must find a number with a square of  $a$ . Similarly, the inverse of raising a number to the  $n$ th power is finding the \_\_\_\_\_ of a number.

Powers	Factors	Words	Roots
$x^3 = 64$	$4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 = 64$	4 is a cube root of 64.	$\sqrt[3]{64} = 4$
$x^4 = 625$	$5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 = 625$	5 is a fourth root of 625.	$\sqrt[4]{625} = 5$
$x^5 = 32$	$2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 = 32$	2 is a fifth root of 32.	$\sqrt[5]{32} = 2$
$a^n = b$	$\underbrace{a \cdot a \cdot a \cdot \dots \cdot a}_{n \text{ factors of } a} = b$	$a$ is an $n$ th root of $b$ .	$\sqrt[n]{b} = a$

 **KeyConcept** Definition of  $n$ th Root

**Words** For any real numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , and any positive integer  $n$ , if  $a^n = b$ , then  $a$  is an  $n$ th root of  $b$ .

**Example** Because  $(-3)^4 = 81$ ,  $-3$  is a fourth root of 81 and 3 is a principal root.

Symbol that indicates  $n$ th root:

Some numbers have more than one real  $n$ th root.

ex) 64 has two square roots

When there is more than one real root and  $n$  is even, the nonnegative root is called the principal root.

Examples of  $n$ th roots:

$\sqrt{25} = 5$	$\sqrt{25}$ indicates the principal square root of 25.
$-\sqrt{25} = -5$	$-\sqrt{25}$ indicates the opposite of the principal square root of 25.
$\pm\sqrt{25} = \pm 5$	$\pm\sqrt{25}$ indicates both square roots of 25.

1. Simplify:

a.  $\pm \sqrt{16y^4}$

f.  $-\sqrt{(y+7)^{16}}$

b.  $-\sqrt{(x^2-6)^8}$

g.  $\sqrt[4]{y^4}$

c.  $\sqrt[5]{243a^{20}b^{25}}$

h.  $\sqrt[6]{64(x^2-3)^{18}}$

d.  $\sqrt{-16x^4y^8}$

i.  $\sqrt{36y^6}$

e.  $\pm \sqrt{36x^{10}}$

j.  $\sqrt[4]{16(x-3)^{12}}$

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k.  $\pm \sqrt{100y^8}$

n.  $\sqrt[4]{16g^{16}h^{24}}$

l.  $-\sqrt{49u^8b^{12}}$

o.  $\sqrt{-16y^4}$

m.  $\sqrt{(y-6)^8}$

p.  $\sqrt[6]{64(2y+1)^{18}}$