

INDICES

What do I need to be able to do?

You should be able to:

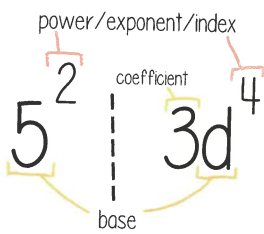
- Add/subtract with indices
- Multiply expressions with indices
- Divide expressions with indices
- Know the addition law for indices
- Know the subtraction law for indices
- Be familiar with the key results
- Work with negative exponents

Key Words

- **Base:** the number that gets multiplied by a power
- **Power:** the number of times the number is used in a multiplication.
- **Exponent:** power (see above)
- **Index:** power (see above)
- **Coefficient:** a number used to multiply a variable
- **Variable:** a letter which represents an unknown number
- **Commutative:** changing the order of the operations doesn't change the result

HIGHER TIER ONLY

- Work with fractional exponents



Addition Law for Indices

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

Examples

$$2^2 \times 2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 2^5$$

$$k^4 \times k^2 = k \times k \times k \times k \times k \times k = k^6$$

Further Examples

$$1 \quad 4w \times 5z = 4 \times 5 \times w \times z = 20wz$$

Remember it is best practice to write your variables in alphabetical order

Multiply the coefficients together and then consider the variables

$$2. \quad 3a \times 4a^2 \times 2a = 3 \times 4 \times 2 \times a \times a \times a = 24a^4$$

Remember if there is no power written, it is to the power of 1

$$3. \quad (t^3)^2 = t^3 \times t^3 = t \times t \times t \times t \times t \times t = t^6$$

Don't forget that if you square something, you multiply it by itself

$$4. \quad 3p^2 \times 4p^3 = 6p^4 = \frac{3p^2 \times 4p^3}{6p^4} = \frac{12p^5}{6p^4} = 2p$$

Don't forget about the order of operations!

Using the subtraction law, $5-4=1$



Spotting Patterns

$$2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$$

Each time I add one to the power, I multiply by 2

$$2^2 = 2 \times 2 = 4$$

Each time I take one from the power, I divide by 2

$$2^1 = 2$$

Therefore, 2 to the power of 0 is 1. Remember anything to the power 0 is 1

$$2^0 = 1$$

If we carry this on, we can even say what 2 to the power of a negative number is!

$$2^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

We can even spot that 2 to the power of -2 is the same as 1 over 2 to the power of 2 (or 2 squared)

$$2^{-2} = \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2^2}$$

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

FRACTIONAL INDICES

HIGHER TIER ONLY

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

Examples

$$25^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{25} = 5 \quad 8^{\frac{1}{3}} = \sqrt[3]{8} = 2$$

$$a^{\frac{n}{m}} = (\sqrt[m]{a})^n$$

Examples

$$25^{\frac{3}{2}} = (\sqrt{25})^3 = 5^3 = 125$$

Remember that this is the same as $(25^{\frac{1}{2}})^3$

Harder Examples

$$(8k^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{8k^2} = 9k$$

$$(9c^4)^{\frac{3}{2}} = (\sqrt{9c^4})^3 = (3c^2)^3 = 27c^6$$

Remember this means we take the square root of the brackets

$$(32p^{20})^{\frac{3}{5}} = (\sqrt[5]{32p^{20}})^3 = (2p^4)^3 = 8p^{12}$$

It is really helpful to know the powers of 2

- 2
- 4
- 8
- 16
- 32

Refer to the ladder on the right if you're struggling to spot the patterns!

Subtraction Law for Indices

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

Examples

$$5^3 \div 5 = \frac{5 \times 5 \times 5}{5} = 5^2 \quad d^5 \div d^2 = \frac{d \times d \times d \times d \times d}{d \times d} = d^3$$

Square and Cube Numbers

When working with indices, it is helpful to know your square and cube numbers!

SQUARE NUMBERS

- 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36,
- 49, 64, 81, 100, 121,
- 144, 169, 196, 225.

CUBE NUMBERS

- 1, 8, 27, 81, 125,
- 216, 343, 512.

You are expected to know these!

NEGATIVE FRACTIONAL INDICES

HIGHER TIER ONLY

EXAMPLE 1

$$8^{-\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{8^{\frac{1}{3}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{8}} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Remember this means the cube root of 8!

EXAMPLE 2

$$25^{\frac{3}{2}} = \frac{1}{25^{\frac{3}{2}}} = \frac{1}{5^3} = \frac{1}{125}$$

Remember this is the same as $(25^{\frac{1}{2}})^3$

EXAMPLE 3

$$(343x^9)^{\frac{2}{3}} \div x^3 = \frac{1}{(343x^9)^{\frac{1}{3}}} \div x^3 = \frac{1}{(7x^3)^2} \div x^3 = \frac{1}{49x^6} \times \frac{1}{x^3} = \frac{1}{49x^9}$$

Don't forget the order of operations!

Remember instead of dividing by a cube, we can multiply by the reciprocal

KEY THINGS TO REMEMBER

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

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

$$a^0 = 1$$

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

HIGHER TIER ONLY

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

$$a^{\frac{n}{m}} = (\sqrt[m]{a})^n$$

STANDARD FORM

What do I need to be able to do?

You should be able to:

- Write numbers in standard form
- Convert numbers written in standard form to ordinary numbers
- Order numbers in standard form
- Add/subtract numbers in standard form
- Multiply/divide numbers in standard form
- Use a calculator when working with standard form

Key Words

Standard Form: a system of writing very big or small numbers

Commutative: changing the order of operations doesn't change the result

Base: the number that gets multiplied by a power

Power: the number of times the number is used in a multiplication

Index: power (see above)

Exponent: power (see above)

Negative: a value below zero

Converting ordinary numbers into standard form

Any integer n
 $A \times 10^n$
 Any number between 1 and 10

Examples

700 = $7 \times 10 \times 10$ = 7×10^2	12500 must be between 1 and 10 = $125 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10$ = 1.25×10^4	0.00034 Remember a negative power doesn't make the answer negative, just closer to 0. = 3.4×10^{-4}
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Converting standard form into ordinary numbers

Example 1
 2×10^3
 $= 2 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10$
 $= 2000$

Example 2
 4.12×10^2
 $= 4.12 \times 10 \times 10$
 $= 412$

Non-Examples

$12 \times 10^2 = 1200$ (must be an integer)
 $184 \times 10 = 1840$ (must be between 1 and 10)
 $6.4 \times 8^3 = 3276.8$ (must be a power of 10)

Index Laws Recap

$10^3 = 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 1000$
 $\uparrow +1$
 $10^2 = 10 \times 10 = 100$
 $\downarrow -1$
 $10^1 = 10$
 $\downarrow -1$
 $10^0 = 1$
 $\downarrow -1$
 $10^{-1} = \frac{1}{10}$
 $10^{-2} = \frac{1}{100} = \frac{1}{10^2}$
 $10^{-3} = \frac{1}{1000} = \frac{1}{10^3}$

Each time I add one to the power, I multiply by 10.
 Each time I take one from the power, I divide by 10.
 Therefore, 10 to the power of 0 is 1. Remember anything to the power 0 is 1.
 If we carry this on, we can even say what 10 to the power of a negative number is!
 We can even spot that 10 to the power of -2 is the same as 1 over 10 to the power of 2 (or 10 squared!).

Ordering Numbers in Standard Form

10^4	10^3	10^2	10^1	10^0	10^{-1}	10^{-2}	10^{-3}
3.1×10^2	4.12×10^4	2×10^{-2}	3281×10^3	24×10^{-2}			
310	41200	0.02	3281	0.024			
2×10^{-2}	24×10^{-2}	3.1×10^2	3281×10^3	4.12×10^4			

Adding and Subtracting Numbers in Standard Form

$$(2.1 \times 10^6) + (3.3 \times 10^3)$$

Foolproof method: convert both numbers to ordinary numbers and then add

$$(2.1 \times 10^6) + (3.3 \times 10^3)$$

$$2,100,000 + 3300$$

$$= 2,103,300$$

$$= 2.103 \times 10^6$$

You should leave your answer in the form given in the question

$$(7.32 \times 10^{-1}) - (2.8 \times 10^{-3})$$

$$0.732 - 0.0028$$

$$= 0.7292$$

$$= 7.292 \times 10^{-1}$$

Remember, the best way to work out a subtraction is with column method

Multiplying and Dividing Numbers in Standard Form

$$(2.1 \times 10^6) \times (3.3 \times 10^3)$$

In multiplication and division problems, you can multiply the A values and the look at the powers of 10

$$2.1 \times 3.3 \times 10^6 \times 10^3$$

$$= 6.93 \times 10^6 \times 10^3$$

$$= 6.93 \times 10^9$$

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

$$(2.8 \times 10^8) \div (7 \times 10^5)$$

$$\frac{2.8 \times 10^8}{7 \times 10^5} = \frac{0.4 \times 10^8}{10^5} = 0.4 \times 10^3$$

BUT... 0.4×10^3 is not in standard form, as A is not a number between 1 and 10! So.

$$0.4 \times 10^3 = 400$$

$$= 4 \times 10^2$$

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

Using a Calculator

If we need to write 13×10^3 in our calculator;

Input 13 and then press $\times 10^x$ A
 Then press 3 for the power



You're going to need this button here!

Your calculator will often give you the solution to your sum, if it is suitably big/small in standard form

SURDS

What do I need to be able to do?

You should be able to:

- Simplify surds
- Add and subtract surds, leaving your answer in the simplest form
- Multiply and divide surds, leaving your answer in the simplest form
- Expand brackets involving surds
- Calculate exactly with surds
- Rationalise denominators

Key Words

- **Integer:** a whole number
- **Rational Number:** a number which can be expressed in the form $\frac{a}{b}$, where a and b are integers
- **Irrational Number:** a number which cannot be expressed in the form $\frac{a}{b}$, where a and b are integers
- **Expand:** multiply out the brackets
- **Square Number:** the result of multiplying an integer by itself

Examples and Non-Examples

$\sqrt{5}$ ✓ $\sqrt{4}$ ✗ $\sqrt{4}$ (this can be simplified to 2, which is a rational number)
 $\sqrt{2}$ $5\sqrt{6}$ $3\sqrt{2}$ (this can be simplified to 3, which is a rational number)
 $\sqrt{3}$ $(\sqrt{5})^2$ (this can be simplified to 5, which is a rational number)
 $\sqrt{11}$ $\sqrt{197}$

Adding & Subtracting Surds

$\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5} = 2\sqrt{5}$ (think of this like $x + x$, or 2 lots of x)
 coefficients are dealt with just like they are in algebra: $4\sqrt{3} + 7\sqrt{3} = 11\sqrt{3}$
 $8\sqrt{2} - 5\sqrt{2} = 3\sqrt{2}$
 $2\sqrt{3} - 7\sqrt{5}$ ($\sqrt{3}$ and $\sqrt{5}$ are UNLIKE TERMS so this cannot be simplified any further)

Multiplying & Dividing Surds

$\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{5} = \sqrt{2 \times 5} = \sqrt{10}$
 $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{7} = \sqrt{3 \times 7} = \sqrt{21}$
 $\sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$
 $\sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{a} = a$
 $\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2 \times 2} = \sqrt{4} = 2$
 $\sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{5} = \sqrt{5 \times 5} = \sqrt{25} = 5$

Simplifying Surds

Method 1

Simplify $\sqrt{24}$

Here we are looking for the largest square number which is also a factor of 24

Factors of 24:
 1 x 24
 2 x 12
 3 x 8
 4 x 6
 So $\sqrt{24} = \sqrt{4 \times 6} = \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{6} = 2\sqrt{6}$

Simplify $\sqrt{96}$

Here we are looking for the largest square number which is also a factor of 96

Factors of 96:
 1 x 96
 2 x 48
 3 x 32
 4 x 24
 6 x 16
 8 x 12
 So $\sqrt{96} = \sqrt{16 \times 6} = \sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{6} = 4\sqrt{6}$

Method 2

Simplify $\sqrt{24}$

Using prime factor decomposition and our knowledge that $\sqrt{a \times b} = \sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b}$, we can say

$24 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3$
 So $\sqrt{24} = \sqrt{2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3} = 2 \times \sqrt{2 \times 3} = 2\sqrt{6}$

Simplify $\sqrt{96}$

$96 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 2 \times 2$
 So $\sqrt{96} = \sqrt{2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3 \times 2 \times 2} = 2 \times 2 \times \sqrt{2 \times 3} = 4\sqrt{6}$

Expanding brackets

Example 1
Expand and simplify $\sqrt{3}(2 + \sqrt{6})$

X	2	$\sqrt{6}$
$\sqrt{3}$	$2\sqrt{3}$	$\sqrt{18}$

$= 2\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{18}$
 $= 2\sqrt{3} + 3\sqrt{2}$

Example 2

Expand and simplify $\sqrt{3}(3\sqrt{8} - 2\sqrt{2})$

X	$3\sqrt{8}$	$-2\sqrt{2}$
$\sqrt{3}$	$3\sqrt{24}$	$-2\sqrt{6}$

$24 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3$
 So $\sqrt{24} = \sqrt{2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 3} = 2 \times \sqrt{2 \times 3} = 2\sqrt{6}$

$= 3\sqrt{24} - 2\sqrt{6}$
 $= 6\sqrt{6} - 2\sqrt{6}$
 $= 4\sqrt{6}$

Example 3

Expand and simplify $(1 + \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{2} - 1)$

X	1	$\sqrt{3}$
$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$	$\sqrt{6}$
-1	-1	$-\sqrt{3}$

We can treat this just like we do double brackets in algebra

$= \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{6} - 1$

Rationalising Denominators

Rationalising the denominator means we are making the denominator of the fraction a RATIONAL number (eg, not a surd).

Example 1

Rationalise the denominator and simplify $\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}$

We don't want to CHANGE the value of the fraction but we need to find an equivalent fraction with a rational denominator.

We do this by multiplying by '1', in this case,

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \times \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{6}} = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{6}$

Example 2

Rationalise the denominator and simplify $\frac{2}{3 + \sqrt{2}}$

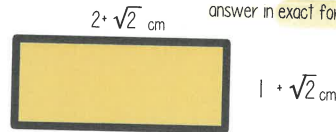
Remember $(x+y)(x-y) = x^2 - y^2$? This result is very important here! We are left with only two square numbers, and we know that means no surds!

We call $(x-y)$ the **conjugate** of $(x+y)$, the conjugate of $3 + \sqrt{2}$ is $3 - \sqrt{2}$

$\frac{2}{3 + \sqrt{2}} \times \frac{3 - \sqrt{2}}{3 - \sqrt{2}}$ (Special kind of '1')
 $= \frac{2(3 - \sqrt{2})}{(3 + \sqrt{2})(3 - \sqrt{2})} = \frac{6 - 2\sqrt{2}}{9 - 2} = \frac{6 - 2\sqrt{2}}{7}$

Problem Solving

Calculate the area and perimeter of this rectangle, leaving your answer in exact form.



Perimeter

$1 + \sqrt{2} + 2 + \sqrt{2} + 1 + \sqrt{2} + 2 + \sqrt{2}$
 $= 6 + 4\sqrt{2}$ cm

Area

$(1 + \sqrt{2})(2 + \sqrt{2})$
 $= 2 + \sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{2} + 2$
 $= 4 + 3\sqrt{2}$ cm²

Exact form means we do not round our answer. This is why surds are so useful as they are an exact value!

Key Things to Remember

$\sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$

$\sqrt{a} \div \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{\frac{a}{b}}$

$\sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{a} = a$

$\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{a} = 2\sqrt{a}$

$2\sqrt{a} - \sqrt{a} = \sqrt{a}$

To rationalise the denominator:

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \times \frac{\sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{a}}$

It is really useful to know your square numbers:
1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100, 121, 144, 169, 196, 225