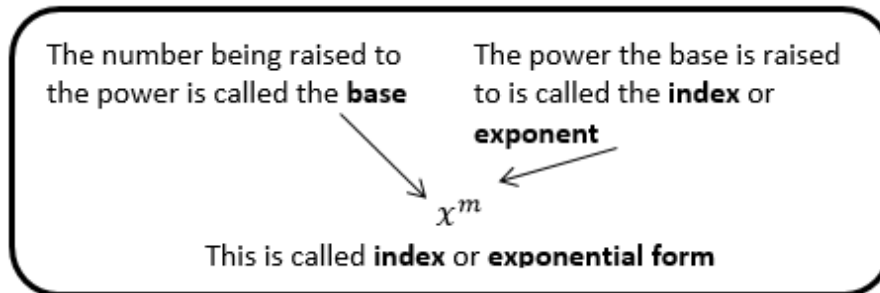


# Indices

## Aims

1. Use the rules of indices with whole number indices
2. Understand and use negative indices
3. Understand and use fraction indices
4. Solve equations in index form



**The laws of indices**

- $x^m \times x^n = x^{m+n}$
- $x^m \div x^n = x^{m-n}$
- $(x^m)^n = x^{mn}$

- $x^0 = 1$
- $\frac{1}{x^m} = x^{-m}$
- $\sqrt[n]{x} = x^{\frac{1}{n}}$

## Example 1

Simplify the following expressions:

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

b.  $4^7 \div 4^5 = 4^2$

c.  $\frac{5^4}{5^2} = 5^2$

d.  $(2^3)^5 = 2^{15}$

e.  $2x^4y^3 \times 4x \times (x^2y^3)^4 =$

f.  $\frac{(3s^3t^4)^2 \times s^2t^5}{(s^2t^3)^4} =$

$2x^4y^3 \times 4x \times (x^2y^3)^4 = 8x^{13}y^{15}$

$\frac{(9s^6t^8)s^2t^5}{s^8t^{12}} = \frac{9s^{8+13}}{s^8t^{12}} = 9t$

### Example 2

Express the following expressions in index form

a.  $\frac{1}{x^3} = x^{-3}$

b.  $\frac{4}{y^3} = 4y^{-3}$

c.  $3\sqrt{x} = 3x^{\frac{1}{2}}$

d.  $\sqrt[3]{x} = x^{\frac{1}{3}}$

e.  $\sqrt[4]{a^3} = a^{\frac{3}{4}}$

f.  $\frac{x^4 - 17x^2 + 6}{x^2}$

$$(x^4 - 17x^2 + 6)x^{-2}$$
$$= x^2 - 17 + 6x^{-2}$$

### **Exam question**

A curve is defined, for  $x > 0$ , by the equation  $y = f(x)$ , where

$$f(x) = \frac{x^8 - 1}{x^3}$$

- (a) Express  $\frac{x^8 - 1}{x^3}$  in the form  $x^p - x^q$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are integers. (2 marks)

$$x^5 - x^{-3}$$

## Solving equations using indices

### Example 3

Solve the following equations for x:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } x^{\frac{1}{2}} &= 6 & (x^{\frac{1}{2}})^2 &= 6^2 \\ & & x &= 36 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{c) } x^{\frac{2}{3}} &= 16 & (x^{\frac{2}{3}})^{\frac{3}{2}} &= 16^{\frac{3}{2}} \\ & & x &= \pm 64 \end{aligned}$$

$$(x^{\frac{1}{2}})(x^{\frac{2}{2}}) = x^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\text{b) } 6x^{\frac{1}{3}} + 1 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} 6x^{\frac{1}{3}} &= -1 \\ (x^{\frac{1}{3}})^3 &= \left(-\frac{1}{6}\right)^3 \\ x &= -\frac{1}{216} \end{aligned}$$



$$\text{d) } \frac{45}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{5}{2}x^{\frac{3}{2}} = 0$$

$$45x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 5x^{\frac{3}{2}} = 0$$

$$9x^{\frac{1}{2}} - x^{\frac{3}{2}} = 0$$

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}}(9 - x^{\frac{2}{2}}) = 0$$

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}} = 0 \quad x = 0, x = 9$$



### Example 4

Solve the following equations for x:

$$\text{a) } 4^{x+1} = 8$$

$$(2^2)^{x+1} = 2^3$$

$$2^{2(x+1)} = 2^3$$

$$2(x+1) = 3$$

$$2x + 2 = 3$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{b) } 3^{x+1} = 27^{x-3}$$

$$3^{x+1} = (3^3)^{x-3}$$

$$3^{x+1} = 3^{3(x-3)}$$

$$x+1 = 3(x-3)$$

$$x+1 = 3x-9$$

$$10 = 2x$$

$$x = 5$$

1 (a) Simplify:

(i)  $x^{\frac{3}{2}} \times x^{\frac{1}{2}};$  (1 mark)

(ii)  $x^{\frac{3}{2}} \div x;$  (1 mark)

(iii)  $\left(x^{\frac{3}{2}}\right)^2.$  (1 mark)

1(a)(i)	$x^2$	B1	1	
(ii)	$x^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{x}$	B1	1	Accept either form
(iii)	$x^3$	B1	1	

Exam question

(a) (i) Find the value of  $p$  for which  $\sqrt{125} = 5^p.$  (2 marks)

(ii) Hence solve the equation  $5^{2x} = \sqrt{125}.$  (1 mark)

$$\sqrt{5^3} = 5^p$$

$$5^{\frac{3}{2}} = 5^p$$

$$p = \frac{3}{2}$$

3 (a) Write down the values of  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$  given that:

(i)  $64 = 8^p$ ;

(ii)  $\frac{1}{64} = 8^q$ ;

(iii)  $\sqrt{8} = 8^r$ .

(3 marks)

(b) Find the value of  $x$  for which

$$\frac{8^x}{\sqrt{8}} = \frac{1}{64}$$

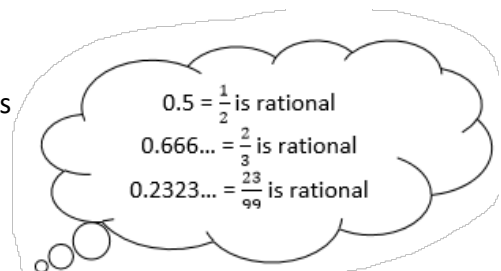
(2 marks)

3(a)(i)	$\{p\} = 2$	B1		Condone ' $64=8^2$ '
(ii)	$\{q\} = -2$	B1ft		Ft on ' $-p$ ' if $q$ not correct
(iii)	$\{r\} = 0.5$	B1	3	Condone ' $\sqrt{8} = 8^{0.5}$ '
(b)	$\frac{8^x}{8^{0.5}} = 8^{-2} \Rightarrow 8^{x-0.5} = 8^{-2}$ OE $\Rightarrow x - 0.5 = -2 \Rightarrow x = -1.5$	M1 A1ft	2	Using parts (a) & valid index law to stage $8^c = 8^d$ (PI) Ft on c's ( $q + r$ ) if not correct (Accept correct answer without working)
ALT: $\log 8^x = \log k$ , $x \log 8 = \log k$ ; $x = -1.5$				(M1 A1)
Total			5	

## Surds

### Aims

1. To be able to simplify surds
2. To be able to put numbers in surd form
3. To be able to rationalise the denominators of fractions

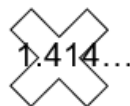


### Definitions

- A number is said to be **rational** if it can be written as a fraction.
- All recurring and terminating decimals are rational.
- A number is said to be **irrational** if it cannot be written as a fraction.
- $\pi, \sqrt{2}, e, \bar{5}$  are examples of irrational numbers.
- Numbers that involve the 'root'  $\sqrt{\quad}$  symbol are called 'surds'. This includes cube roots, 4<sup>th</sup> roots and higher.

### Exact

When an exam question asks for an answer in 'exact' form, leave it as a surd.



1.414... is an **approximation** of  $\sqrt{2}$ , no matter how many decimal places you use.

## Surd Rules

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{ab} &= \sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b} \\ \sqrt{\frac{a}{b}} &= \frac{\sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{b}} \\ \sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{a} &= a\end{aligned}$$

Similar rules do not apply to addition/subtraction!

$$\sqrt{a+b} \neq \sqrt{a} + \sqrt{b} \text{ and } \sqrt{a-b} \neq \sqrt{a} - \sqrt{b}$$

When you are asked to simplify a surd, or write a number in surd form, you need to write the number as a product of two numbers, one of which is a square number.

### Example 1

Write these numbers in surd form

Look for *"square factors"*

$$\sqrt{72} = \sqrt{36 \times 2} = 6\sqrt{2}$$

$$\sqrt{24} = \sqrt{4 \times 6} = 2\sqrt{6}$$

### Example 2

Simplify these numbers:

$$\text{a) } \sqrt{72} + 3\sqrt{2} = 6\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{2} = 9\sqrt{2}$$

$$\text{b) } \sqrt{12} + \sqrt{75} = 2\sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{3} = 7\sqrt{3}$$

### Example 3

Expand and simplify:

$$\text{a) } \sqrt{5}(2 + \sqrt{15}) = 2\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{75} = 2\sqrt{5} + 5\sqrt{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{b) } (3 - 2\sqrt{5})(4 + \sqrt{5}) &= 12 + 3\sqrt{5} - 8\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{25} \\ &= 12 - 5\sqrt{5} - 10 = 2 - 5\sqrt{5}\end{aligned}$$

## Rationalising the denominator

Fractions with surds in can be easier to deal with if their denominator is rational.  
When we see a fraction with a surd on the bottom, we must 'Rationalise the denominator'.

### Example 4

If it looks like this:	Do this:	We get:
$\frac{3}{\sqrt{3}}$	$\frac{3}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}$	$\frac{3\sqrt{3}}{3} = \sqrt{3}$
$\frac{5}{2\sqrt{7}}$	$\frac{5}{2\sqrt{7}} \times \frac{\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{7}}$	$\frac{5\sqrt{7}}{14}$
$\frac{3 + \sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{3 + \sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{3\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{16}}{2} = \frac{3\sqrt{2} + 4}{2} = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{2} + 2$

If it looks like this:	Do this:	We get:
$\frac{3}{7 - \sqrt{3}}$	$\frac{3}{7 - \sqrt{3}} \times \frac{7 + \sqrt{3}}{7 + \sqrt{3}}$	$\frac{21 + 3\sqrt{3}}{49 - 7\sqrt{3} + 7\sqrt{3} - 9}$ $= \frac{21 + 3\sqrt{3}}{49 - 9} = \frac{21 + 3\sqrt{3}}{40}$
$\frac{7 + \sqrt{5}}{3 + \sqrt{5}}$	$\frac{7 + \sqrt{5}}{3 + \sqrt{5}} \times \frac{3 - \sqrt{5}}{3 - \sqrt{5}}$	$\frac{21 - 7\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{5} - 5}{9 + 3\sqrt{5} - 3\sqrt{5} - 25}$ $= \frac{16 - 4\sqrt{5}}{9 - 5} = \frac{16 - 4\sqrt{5}}{4} = 4 - \sqrt{5}$

If it looks like this:	Do this:	We get:
$\frac{2\sqrt{7}-1}{2\sqrt{7}+5}$	$\frac{2\sqrt{7}-1}{2\sqrt{7}+5} \times \frac{2\sqrt{7}-5}{2\sqrt{7}-5}$ $(2\sqrt{7})(2\sqrt{7})$ $=4\sqrt{49}=28$	$\frac{28 - 10\sqrt{7} - 2\sqrt{7} + 5}{28 - 25}$ $= \frac{33 - 12\sqrt{7}}{3} = 11 - 4\sqrt{7}$
$\frac{4\sqrt{5}-7\sqrt{2}}{2\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{4\sqrt{5}-7\sqrt{2}}{2\sqrt{5}+\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{2\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{2}}{2\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{2}}$ $(2\sqrt{5})(2\sqrt{5})$ $=4\sqrt{25}=20$	$\frac{40 - 4\sqrt{10} - 14\sqrt{10} + 14}{20 - 2}$ $= \frac{54 - 18\sqrt{10}}{18} = 3 - \sqrt{10}$

1 Express each of the following in the form  $m + n\sqrt{3}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are integers:

(a)  $(\sqrt{3} + 1)^2$ ;  $1+3+2\sqrt{3} = 4+2\sqrt{3}$  (2 marks)

(b)  $\frac{\sqrt{3}+1}{\sqrt{3}-1} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}+1}{\sqrt{3}+1} = \frac{4+2\sqrt{3}}{3-1} = 2+\sqrt{3}$  (3 marks)

2(a) Simplify  $(\sqrt{12} + 2)(\sqrt{12} - 2)$ .  $12-4=8$  (2 marks)

(b) Express  $\sqrt{12}$  in the form  $m\sqrt{3}$ , where  $m$  is an integer.  $2\sqrt{3}$  (1 mark)

(c) Express  $\frac{\sqrt{12}+2}{\sqrt{12}-2}$  in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3}$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. (4 marks)

$$\times \frac{\sqrt{12}+2}{\sqrt{12}+2} = \frac{16+4\sqrt{12}}{8} = 2+\sqrt{3}$$

3(a) Express  $(3 + \sqrt{2})^2$  in the form  $p + q\sqrt{2}$ .  $11+6\sqrt{2}$  (2 marks)

(b) Hence express  $\frac{98}{(3 + \sqrt{2})^2}$  in the form  $m + n\sqrt{2}$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are integers. (3 marks)

$$\frac{98}{11+6\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{11-6\sqrt{2}}{11-6\sqrt{2}} = \frac{98(11-6\sqrt{2})}{121-72} = \frac{98(11-6\sqrt{2})}{49} = 22-12\sqrt{2}$$



**4** (a) Simplify  $(\sqrt{5} + 2)(\sqrt{5} - 2)$ . (2 marks)

(b) Express  $\sqrt{8} + \sqrt{18}$  in the form  $n\sqrt{2}$ , where  $n$  is an integer. (2 marks)

<b>1(a)</b>	$(\sqrt{5})^2 + 2\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{5} - 4 = 1$	M1	2	Multiplying out or difference of two squares attempted Full marks for correct answer /no working
		A1		
<b>(b)</b>	$\sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2} \quad ; \quad \sqrt{18} = 3\sqrt{2}$	M1	2	Either correct
	Answer = $5\sqrt{2}$	A1		Full marks for correct answer /no working

## Attachments

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C2 Laws of Logs RallyCoach.docx

Basic Logs and Exp matching.docx

LogarithmsHexJig.pdf

Simplifying Logarithmic Expressions.pdf

True or False.pdf

Target Board - Logs and Indices.docx

Target Board - Logs and Indices Solutions.docx

01. Indices odd one out.docx

Indices problem set.pdf

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Surds Starter True or False.docx