

1 EXAMPLE

Rewrite each expression using each base only once.

$$\overbrace{7 \cdot 7 \cdot 7}^{\text{Base}} \quad \overbrace{7 \cdot 7}^{\text{Base}}$$

a. $7^3 \cdot 7^2 = 7^{3+2}$

Add exponents of powers with the same base.

$$= 7^5 = 16,801$$

Simplify the sum of the exponents.

b. $4^4 \cdot 4^1 \cdot 4^{-2} = 4^{4+1-2}$

Think of $4 + 1 - 2$ as $4 + 1 + (-2)$ to add the exponents.

$$= 4^3 = 64$$

Simplify the sum of the exponents.

c. $6^8 \cdot 6^{-8} = 6^{8+(-8)}$

Add exponents of powers with the same base.

$$= 6^0$$

Simplify the sum of the exponents.

$$= 1$$

Use the definition of zero as an exponent.

Multiplying Exponents

Additional Examples

Lesson 8-3

2 EXAMPLE Simplify each expression.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a. } p^2 \cdot p \cdot p^5 &= p^{2+1+5} \\ &= p^8 \end{aligned}$$

Add exponents of powers with the same base.
Simplify.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b. } 4x^6 \cdot 5x^{-4} &= (4 \cdot 5)(x^6 \cdot x^{-4}) \\ &= 20(x^{6+(-4)}) \\ &= 20x^2 \end{aligned}$$

Commutative Property of Multiplication
Add exponents of powers with the same base.
Simplify.

3 EXAMPLE Simplify each expression.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a. } a^2 \cdot b^{-4} \cdot a^5 &= a^2 \cdot a^5 \cdot b^{-4} \\ &= a^{2+5} \cdot b^{-4} \\ &= \frac{a^7}{b^4} \end{aligned}$$

Commutative Property of Multiplication
Add exponents of powers with the same base.
Simplify.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b. } 2q \cdot 3p^3 \cdot 4q^4 &= (2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4)(p^3)(q \cdot q^4) \\ &= 24(p^3)(q^1 \cdot q^4) \\ &= 24(p^3)(q^{1+4}) \\ &= 24p^3q^5 \end{aligned}$$

Commutative and Associative Properties of Multiplication
Multiply the coefficients.
Write q as q^1 .
Add exponents of powers with the same base.
Simplify.

Additional Examples

Lesson 8-3

4 EXAMPLE Simplify $(3 \times 10^{-3})(7 \times 10^{-5})$. Write the answer in scientific notation.

$$\begin{aligned}(3 \times 10^{-3})(7 \times 10^{-5}) &= (3 \cdot 7)(10^{-3} \cdot 10^{-5}) && \text{Commutative and Associative Properties of Multiplication} \\&= 21 \times 10^{-8} && \text{Simplify.} \\&= 2.1 \times 10^1 \cdot 10^{-8} && \text{Write 21 in scientific notation.} \\&= 2.1 \times 10^{1+(-8)} && \text{Add exponents of powers with the same base.} \\&= 2.1 \times 10^{-7} && \text{Simplify.}\end{aligned}$$

5 EXAMPLE The speed of light is 3×10^8 m/s. If there are 1×10^{-3} km in 1 m, and 3.6×10^3 s in 1 h, find the speed of light in km/h.

$$\text{Speed of light} = \frac{\text{meters}}{\text{seconds}} \cdot \frac{\text{kilometers}}{\text{meters}} \cdot \frac{\text{seconds}}{\text{hour}} \quad \text{Use dimensional analysis.}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&= (3 \times 10^8) \frac{m}{s} \cdot (1 \times 10^{-3}) \frac{km}{m} \cdot (3.6 \times 10^3) \frac{s}{h} && \text{Substitute.} \\&= (3 \cdot 1 \cdot 3.6) \times (10^8 \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot 10^3) && \text{Commutative and Associative Properties of Multiplication} \\&= 10.8 \times (10^8 + (-3) + 3) && \text{Simplify.} \\&= 10.8 \times 10^8 && \text{Add exponents.} \\&= 1.08 \times 10^1 \cdot 10^8 && \text{Write 10.8 in scientific notation.} \\&= 1.08 \times 10^9 && \text{Add the exponents.}\end{aligned}$$

The speed of light is about 1.08×10^9 km/h.