

## 1.5 – Multiplying and Dividing Rational Expressions

### When Multiplying & Dividing Rational Expressions...

Step 1 – Factor all numerators and denominators

Step 2 – State any restrictions

Step 3 – Reduce any common factors that are in both the numerator and denominator to simplify the expression

Step 4 –  $\frac{\text{Top} \times \text{Top}}{\text{Bottom} \times \text{Bottom}}$  for multiplication **or** invert and multiply for division

– If **division**: make sure to state new restrictions for 'new' denominator

Step 5 – Simplify further (if possible)

Ex.1 State any restrictions on the variable and simplify

a.  $\frac{3x^3}{2y^2} \times \frac{10y^3}{9x^2}$  ,  $x \neq 0$   
 $y \neq 0$

$$\frac{\cancel{3}^3 x^{\cancel{3}^3}}{\cancel{2}^2 y^2} \times \frac{10 y^{\cancel{3}^3} \cancel{9}^3 \cancel{x}^2}{\cancel{3}^3}$$
$$\frac{x}{1} \times \frac{5y}{3}$$
$$= \frac{5xy}{3} \quad , \quad \begin{matrix} x \neq 0 \\ y \neq 0 \end{matrix}$$

b.  $\frac{2ab}{5c} \div \frac{14a^2b^2}{15c^2}$  ,  $a \neq 0$   
 $b \neq 0$   
 $c \neq 0$

$$\frac{2ab}{5c} \times \frac{15c^2}{14a^2b^2} = \frac{3c}{7ab}$$
$$\frac{\cancel{2}^1 a b}{5c} \times \frac{15 \cancel{c}^2}{\cancel{14}^7 a^2 \cancel{b}^2} = \frac{3c}{7ab}$$

c.  $\frac{2a^2 - a - 1}{a^2 - 1} \times \frac{4a^2 + 4a}{2a^2 + 7a + 3} \quad a \neq 0$

$$= \frac{\cancel{(a-1)}\cancel{(2a+1)}}{\cancel{(a-1)}\cancel{(a+1)}} \times \frac{4\cancel{(a+1)}}{\cancel{(2a+1)}(a+3)}$$

$$= \frac{2(2a+1)}{(a+1)} \times \frac{4}{a+3} \quad \begin{matrix} a \neq \pm 1 \\ a \neq -3 \\ a \neq -\frac{1}{2} \end{matrix}$$

$$= \frac{4a}{a+3} \quad \begin{matrix} a \neq \pm 1 \\ a \neq -3 \\ a \neq -\frac{1}{2} \end{matrix}$$

d.  $\frac{2x^2 - 6x}{x^2 - 9} \div \frac{4x^3 + 28x^2}{x^2 + 10x + 21}$

$$\frac{2x\cancel{(x-3)}}{\cancel{(x-3)}(x+3)} \div \frac{4x^2\cancel{(x+7)}}{\cancel{(x+7)}(x+3)} \quad \begin{matrix} x \neq \pm 3 \\ x \neq -7 \end{matrix}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$\frac{\cancel{2x}\cancel{(x-3)}}{\cancel{(x-3)}\cancel{(x+3)}} \times \frac{\cancel{(x+7)}\cancel{(x+3)}}{4x^2\cancel{(x+7)}} \quad \begin{matrix} x \neq \pm 3 \\ x \neq -7 \\ x \neq 0 \end{matrix}$$

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

$x \neq \pm 3, -7, 0$

e.  $\frac{k^2 + 6k + 8}{8k^2 - 24k} \times \frac{k^2 - 2k - 3}{k^2 - 4} \div \frac{k^2 + 5k + 4}{4k^2 - 8k} \quad k \neq 0$

$$\frac{\cancel{(k+4)}\cancel{(k+2)}}{\cancel{8k}\cancel{(k-3)}} \times \frac{\cancel{(k-3)}\cancel{(k+1)}}{\cancel{(k-2)}\cancel{(k+2)}} \times \frac{4\cancel{k}\cancel{(k-2)}}{\cancel{(k+4)}\cancel{(k+1)}}$$

$$\frac{1}{2}$$

$k \neq \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, 0, -4$



Homework:

Text pg. 122 - 23 # 4d, 5(c,d), 6(c,d), 7(a,d), 8, 9, 10

# Multiplying & Dividing Rational Expressions ~ Worksheet

[pg. 122 - 23 # 4d, 5(c,d), 6(c,d), 7(a,d), 8, 9, 10]

4. Simplify. State any restrictions on the variables.

a)  $x \neq 0$   $\frac{2x^2}{7} \times \frac{21}{x} = \frac{21x}{1}$  c)  $\frac{2x^3y}{3xy^2} \times \frac{9x}{4x^2y}$   $\frac{x}{y^2} \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{3x}{2y^2}$   $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$

b)  $\frac{7a}{3} \div \frac{14a^2}{5}$

d)  $\frac{3a^2b^3}{2ab^2} \div \frac{9a^2b}{14a^2}$

$\frac{7a}{3} \times \frac{5}{14a^2} = \frac{5}{21a}$   $a \neq 0$

$\frac{3a^2b^3}{2ab^2} \times \frac{14a^2}{9a^2b} = \frac{14ab^2}{3}$   $a \neq 0, b \neq 0$

$\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{5}{7a} = \frac{5}{21a}$

$\frac{14ab^2}{3}$

5. Simplify. State any restrictions on the variables.

a)  $\frac{2(x+1)}{3} \times \frac{x-1}{x(x+1)} = \frac{x-1}{3}$   $x \neq -1$

c)  $\frac{2(x-2)}{9x^3} \times \frac{12x^4}{-2+x} = \frac{2(x-2)}{3} \times \frac{4}{-1} = \frac{8}{-3}$   $x \neq 0, 2$

b)  $\frac{3a-6}{a+2} \div \frac{a-2}{a+2}$   $a \neq -2$

d)  $\frac{3(m+4)^2}{2m+1} \div \frac{5(m+4)}{7m+14}$   $m \neq 0$

$\frac{3(a-2)}{a+2} \times \frac{a+2}{a-2} = 3$   $a \neq -2$

$\frac{3(m+4)(m+4)}{2m+1} \times \frac{7m+14}{5(m+4)} = \frac{21(m+4)}{5(2m+1)}$   $m \neq -4, 0, -\frac{1}{2}, -2$

$\frac{3(m+4)}{2m+1} \times \frac{7(m+2)}{5} = \frac{21(m+4)(m+2)}{5(2m+1)}$

$$x \neq -2, \pm 3$$

6. Simplify. State any restrictions on the variables.

a)  $\frac{(x+1)\cancel{(x-3)}}{(x+2)\cancel{(x+3)}} \times \frac{2\cancel{(x+2)}}{\cancel{(x-3)}(x+3)} = \frac{(x+1)}{(x+2)} \times \frac{2}{(x+3)} = \frac{2(x+1)}{(x+2)(x+3)}$

b)  $\frac{2(n^2 - 7n + 12)}{n^2 - n - 6} \div \frac{5(n-4)}{n^2 - 4} = \frac{2(n^2 - 7n + 12)}{n^2 - n - 6} \times \frac{n^2 - 4}{5(n-4)}$

c)  $\frac{2x^2 - x - 1}{x^2 - x - 6} \times \frac{6x^2 - 5x + 1}{8x^2 + 14x + 5} = \frac{(2x-1)(x+1)}{(x-3)(x+2)} \times \frac{(2x-1)(3x-1)}{(4x+5)(2x+1)} = \frac{(2x-1)(3x-1)}{(x-3)(x+2)(4x+5)}$

d)  $\frac{9y^2 - 4}{4y - 12} \div \frac{9y^2 + 12y + 4}{18 - 6y} = \frac{(3y-2)(3y+2)}{2(2y-3)} \times \frac{3(3y+2)}{(3y+2)(3y+4)} = \frac{3(3y-2)}{2(3y+2)}$

$$= -\frac{3(3y-2)}{2(3y+2)}$$

7. Simplify. State any restrictions on the variables.

a)  $\frac{x^2 - 5xy + 4y^2}{x^2 + 3xy - 28y^2} \times \frac{x^2 + 2xy + y^2}{x^2 - y^2}$

b)  $\frac{2a^2 - 12ab + 18b^2}{a^2 - 7ab + 10b^2} \div \frac{4a^2 - 12ab}{a^2 - 7ab + 10b^2}$

c)  $\frac{10x^2 + 3xy - y^2}{9x^2 - y^2} \div \frac{6x^2 + 3xy}{12x + 4y}$

d)  $\frac{15m^2 + mn - 2n^2}{2n - 14m} \times \frac{7m^2 - 8mn + n^2}{5m^2 + 7mn + 2n^2}$

$$\begin{array}{r} -30 \\ +6-5 \\ \hline 5 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 3 \\ 18m-8 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{(5m+2n)(3n-1n)}{18 \times 3}$$

$$(5m+2n)(3n-1n)$$

$$= \frac{(5m+2n)(3m-1n)}{2 \frac{(n-7m)}{-1-1}} \times \frac{(m+n)(7m-n)}{(m+n)(5m+2n)}$$

$$= \frac{(3m-n)(m-n)}{2(7m-n)(m+n)}$$

$$= \frac{(3m-n)(m-n)}{-2(m+n)}$$

8. Simplify. State any restrictions on the variables.

K

$x \neq 0, \frac{1}{2},$   $\frac{x^2 + x - 6}{(2x - 1)^2} \times \frac{x(2x - 1)^2}{x^2 + 2x - 3} \div \frac{x^2 - 4}{3x}$

$x \neq \frac{1}{2}, -3, 1, 2$   $\frac{(x+3)(x-2)}{(2x-1)(2x-1)} \times \frac{1x(2x-1)(2x-1)}{(x+3)(x-1)} \times \frac{3x}{(x-2)(x-2)} = \frac{3x^3}{(x-1)(x-2)}$

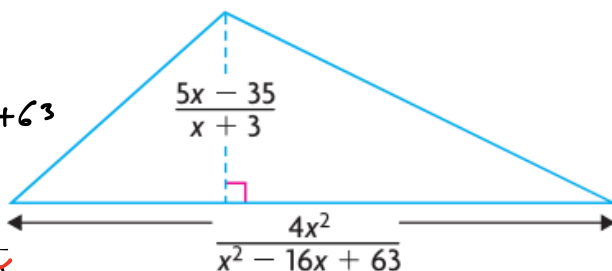
$x \neq 0, \frac{1}{2}, -3, 1, 2$

9. Determine the area of the triangle in simplified form. State the restrictions.

A

$$x \neq -3$$

$$\frac{5x-3}{x+3} \times \frac{4x^2}{x^2-16x+63}$$



$$\frac{20x^2-2}{(x+3)(x-9)} = \frac{10x^2}{(x+3)(x-9)}$$

10. An object has mass  $m = \frac{p+1}{3p+1}$  and density  $\rho = \frac{p^2-1}{9p^2+6p+1}$ .

Determine its volume  $v$ , where  $\rho = \frac{m}{v}$ . State the restrictions on any variables.

$$\frac{p^2-1}{9p^2+6p+1} = \frac{p+1}{\frac{3p+1}{v}}$$

$$p \neq -\frac{1}{3}, 1$$

$$v = \frac{p+1}{3p+1} \div \frac{p^2-1}{9p^2+6p+1}$$

$$p \neq 1, -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$v = \frac{p+1}{3p+1} \times \frac{9p^2+6p+1}{(p-1)(p+1)} = \frac{p+1}{3p+1} \times \frac{(3p+1)(3p+1)}{(p-1)(p+1)}$$

$$v = \frac{(3p+1)}{(p-1)}, p \neq -\frac{1}{3}, \pm 1$$

## Solutions:

4. a)  $6x, x \neq 0$       c)  $\frac{3x}{2y^2}, x \neq 0, y \neq 0$   
 b)  $\frac{5}{6a}, a \neq 0$       d)  $\frac{7a}{3}, a \neq 0, b \neq 0$
5. a)  $\frac{(x-1)}{9}, x \neq -1$       c)  $-\frac{8x}{3}, x \neq 0, 2$   
 b)  $3, a \neq -2, 2$       d)  $\frac{21(m+4)(m+2)}{5(2m+1)}, m \neq -4, -2, -\frac{1}{2}$
6. a)  $\frac{2(x+1)}{(x+2)(x+3)}, x \neq -3, -2, 3$   
 b)  $\frac{2(n-2)}{5}, n \neq -2, 2, 3, 4$   
 c)  $\frac{(x-1)(3x-1)(2x-1)}{(x-3)(x+2)(4x+5)}, x \neq -2, -\frac{5}{4}, -\frac{1}{2}, 3$   
 d)  $\frac{-3(3y-2)}{2(3y+2)}, y \neq -\frac{2}{3}, 3$
7. a)  $\frac{x+y}{x+7y}, x \neq -y, -7y, y, 4y$   
 b)  $\frac{(a-3b)}{2a}, a \neq 0, 2b, 3b, 5b$   
 c)  $\frac{4(5x-y)}{3x(3x-y)}, x \neq 0, -\frac{1}{2}y, -\frac{1}{3}y, \frac{1}{3}y$   
 d)  $\frac{-(3m-n)(m-n)}{2(m+n)}, m \neq \frac{1}{7}n, -\frac{2}{5}n, -n$
8.  $\frac{3x^2}{(x-1)(x+2)}, \text{restrictions: } x \neq -3, -2, 0, \frac{1}{2}, 1, 2$
9.  $\frac{10x^2}{(x-9)(x+3)}, x \neq 9, 7, -3$
10.  $\frac{3p+1}{p-1}, p \neq -1, -\frac{1}{3}, 1$