

Objective - Solving Rational Equations

Solve rational equations that lead to linear and quadratic equations.

Link to section in online textbook.

First, watch [this video](#) to learn how solving rational functions. Since our domain can be restricted, we need to check these values!

Question 1 Solve the rational equation below. Remember to check your solutions to make sure they are valid! If there is no solution, answer “NA”.

$$-\frac{3}{8(x+1)} + 1 = \frac{18}{-48x - 48}$$

Solution: $x =$

Question 2 Solve the rational equation below. Remember to check your solutions to make sure they are valid! If there is no solution, answer “NA”.

$$\frac{7}{5x+2} + 5 = \frac{7}{-20x-8}$$

Solution: $x =$

Question 3 Solve the rational equation below. Remember to check your solutions to make sure they are valid! If there are more boxes than solutions, answer “NA”.

$$-\frac{x^2}{15x^2 + x - 6} - \frac{3x}{3x + 2} = \frac{2}{5x - 3}$$

Solutions: $x =$ and $x =$

Question 4 Solve the rational equation below. Remember to check your solutions to make sure they are valid! If there are more boxes than solutions, answer “NA”.

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

Learning outcomes:

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Solutions: $x = \boxed{-3}$ and $x = \boxed{NA}$

Question 5 Solve the rational equation below. Remember to check your solutions to make sure they are valid! If there are more boxes than solutions, answer “NA”.

$$-\frac{x^2}{9x^2 + 12x - 5} + \frac{5x}{2(3x - 1)} = -\frac{5}{3x + 5}$$

Solutions: $x = \boxed{-\frac{1}{26}\sqrt{3545} - \frac{55}{26}}$ and $x = \boxed{\frac{1}{26}\sqrt{3545} - \frac{55}{26}}$

Question 6 Main takeaway: Before looking, you should work through the previous problems. Have you finished working through the examples?

Feedback(correct): To solve rational equations, we want to multiply to remove the denominators. When in doubt, multiply by the denominator of each one at a time. This may not always be the most efficient way (multiplying by the GCD would be) it will eventually get the equation into a more manageable form. Like with radical functions, we also need to check our solutions to make sure they are valid – that we are not dividing by 0.