degree of an algebraic number

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Let α be an algebraic number. The *degree* of α is the http://planetmath.org/Degree8degree of the minimal polynomial for α over $\mathbb{Q}$.

In a manner to polynomials, the degree of α may be denoted $\deg \alpha$.

For example, since $x^3 - 2$ is the minimal polynomial for $\sqrt[3]{2}$ over $\mathbb{Q}$, we have $\deg \sqrt[3]{2} = 3$.