**6.1 Roots and Radical Expressions**

Objectives: To find nth roots.

**nth root of a**: for an integer n greater than 1,

b is an nth root of a if **bn = a**

**Real nth Roots**;

*Let n be an integer greater than 1 and let a be a real number;* n√a

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Equation** | **Example** |
| Odd exponent,  any number  **ONE REAL** |  |  |
| Even exponent, positive number  **TWO REAL** |  |  |
| Even exponent, negative number  **TWO IMAGINARY** |  |  |
| Zero  **ALWAYS ZERO** |  |  |

Key Terms when talking about Roots and Radical Expressions.

**Roots:**  
 **Radical:**   
 **Radicand:**   
 **Index:**

**Example:**

1. **2.) 3.) 4.) 5.)**

**nth Roots of nth Powers**  
For any real number a,

**In other words, When Variables are Involved**;

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| n is odd |  |  |
| n is even |  |  |

**Example:**

**Simplifying Radical Expressions**You can split the parts being multiplied into separate radicals with the same index.

**\*Example:**

Odd index, can’t include any absolute value symbols.

**\*Note:** If after simplifying a radical with an even exponent, and you get an odd exponent make sure you take its absolute value.

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