

# Add or subtract polynomials $3x^2 + 10x + 5$ $8x^3 + 3x^2$

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Polynomials: A Comprehensive Guide\*\*

### Understanding Polynomials

- **Definition:** A polynomial is an algebraic expression composed of variables and constants, linked by addition or subtraction operations only.
- **Degree:** The highest power of the variable in a polynomial determines its degree.
- **Types:** Polynomials can be monomials (one term), binomials (two terms), trinomials (three terms), or higher-order polynomials.

### Identifying Polynomials

- **Key Features:**
  - Variables raised to non-negative integer powers
  - Constants added or subtracted
- **Examples of Polynomials:**
  - $x^2 + 3x - 5$
  - $2y^3 - 4y^2 + 7$
- **Examples of Non-Polynomials:**
  - $x^{-1}$  (Negative exponent)

- $x^{\frac{1}{2}}$  (Non-integer exponent)
- $\sin(x)$  (Trigonometric function)

## Operations on Polynomials

### Addition and Subtraction:

- Add or subtract like terms (terms with the same variable and exponent)
- For fractional polynomials, convert to a common denominator before adding or subtracting
- Example:  $(x^2 + 3x - 5) + (2x^2 - 4x + 7) = 3x^2 - x + 2$

### Multiplication:

- Use the distributive property and FOIL method
- Example:  $(x + 2)(x - 3) = x^2 - x - 6$

## Special Polynomials

- **Constant Polynomial:** A polynomial with a degree of 0, consisting only of a constant, e.g., 3
- **Monomial:** A polynomial with one term, e.g.,  $2x^3$
- **Polynomial 10:** An algebraic expression whose highest degree is 10
- **End Behavior of a Graph:** The behavior of a polynomial function as the input approaches positive or negative infinity

## Classification of Polynomials

- **Order:** Refers to the degree of a polynomial, e.g., order 3 for a polynomial with  $x^3$  as its highest term
- **Degree:** The highest power of the variable present in a polynomial

## Polynomials in Real-World Applications

- Modeling curves and shapes

- Physics and engineering equations
- Computer science algorithms
- Finance and economics

## Common Questions

- **Is  $x^{\frac{1}{2}}$  a polynomial?** No,  $x^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is not a polynomial as it has a non-integer exponent.
- **Are all polynomials algebraic?** Yes, polynomials are a subset of algebraic expressions.
- **What is the sum of the polynomials  $7x^3 + 4x^2$  and  $2x^3 + 4x^2$ ?**  $9x^3 + 8x^2$
- **How to subtract the polynomial  $2x^3y^2 - 4x^2y^3 + 3xy^4 - 6x^4y + 5x^2y^3 - y^5$  from the polynomial  $6x^3y^2 - 6x^2y^3 + 8xy^4 - 12x^4y + 3x^2y^3 + 2y^5$ ?**  $-4x^3y^2 + 8x^2y^3 - 5xy^4 + 6x^4y + 18x^2y^3 - 3y^5$
- **Is 8 a polynomial?** Yes, 8 is a constant polynomial with a degree of 0.

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