

# Answers: Laws of indices

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## Summary

Answers to questions relating to using laws of indices.

*These are the answers to [Questions: Laws of indices](#).*

**Please attempt the questions before reading these answers!**

## Q1

$$1.1. 3^4 = 81$$

$$1.2. 125^{\frac{2}{3}} = 5^2 = 25$$

$$1.3. 32^{\frac{2}{5}} = 2^2 = 4$$

$$1.4. 729^{-\frac{2}{3}} = 9^{-2} = \frac{1}{81}$$

$$1.5. 4^3 \cdot 2^5 = 2^6 \cdot 2^5 = 2^{11} = 2048$$

$$1.6. 2^2 \cdot 3^2 = (2 \cdot 3)^2 = 6^2$$

$$1.7. 8^5 \cdot 6^5 = (8 \cdot 6)^5 = 48^5$$

$$1.8. 12^6 \cdot 3^6 = (12 \cdot 3)^6 = 36^6 = 2176782336$$

$$1.9. \frac{9^2}{27^2} = 3^{-2} = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$1.10. (5^2)^2 = 5^4 = 625$$

$$1.11. (35^0)^9 = 1$$

$$1.12. (35^9)^0 = 1$$

$$1.13. (729^9)^{\frac{1}{9}} = 729^{\frac{9}{9}} = 729$$

$$1.14. 7^{-3} = \frac{1}{7^3} = \frac{1}{343}$$

$$1.15. (\frac{4^5}{2^5}) = (\frac{4}{2})^5 = 2^5$$

$$1.16. (\frac{2^{-2}}{13^{-2}}) = (\frac{2}{13})^{-2} = (\frac{13}{2})^2$$

$$1.17. 64^{\frac{4}{3}} = 4^4 = 256$$

$$1.18. \left(\frac{4^3 \cdot 3^3}{6^3}\right) = \left(\frac{4 \cdot 3}{6}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{12}{6}\right)^3 = 2^3 = 8$$

$$1.19. \left(\frac{4^2 \cdot 8^2}{2^2}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{4 \cdot 8}{2}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{4 \cdot 8 \cdot 1}{2 \cdot 2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{32}{4}\right)^2 = 8^2 = 64$$

$$1.20. \frac{\left[\left(\frac{-2}{3}\right)^{-3} \cdot \left(\frac{-3}{5}\right)^{-3}\right]}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-3}} = \frac{\left(\frac{6}{15}\right)^{-3}}{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{-3}} = \frac{\left(\frac{15}{6}^3\right)}{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^3} = \left(\frac{15 \cdot 2}{6 \cdot 3}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{5}{3}\right)^3 = \frac{125}{27}$$

$$1.21. \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 \left(\frac{3}{5}\right)^4}{\left(\frac{8}{3}\right)^4} = \frac{\left(\frac{5}{6}\right)^4}{\left(\frac{8}{3}\right)^4} = \left(\frac{15}{48}\right)^4 = \left(\frac{5}{16}\right)^4 = \frac{625}{65536}$$

$$1.22. \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^{14} \cdot \left(\frac{9}{12}\right)^{14} = \left(\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{9}{12}\right)\right)^{14} = \left(\frac{18}{36}\right)^{14} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{14} = \frac{1}{16384}$$

## Q2

$$2.1. (b^7)^4 = b^{28}$$

$$2.2. y^{13} \cdot y^5 = y^{18}$$

$$2.3. a^2 \cdot b^2 = (ab)^2$$

$$2.4. \frac{x^{13}}{x^5} = x^8$$

$$2.5. (3y^{-2})^5 = (3)^5 \cdot (y^{-2})^5 = 243y^{-10}$$

$$2.6. (a)^{-4} \cdot (b)^{-4} = (ab)^{-4} = \frac{1}{(ab)^4}$$

$$2.7. (7z^{-5})^3 = (7)^3 \cdot (z^{-5})^3 = 343z^{-15}$$

$$2.8. \left(\frac{8x^5}{4x^{-5}}\right) = 2x^{(5+5)} = 2x^{10}$$

$$2.9. ((x^2)^3 \cdot x^5) = x^6 \cdot x^5 = x^{11}$$

$$2.10. \frac{2a^{-4}}{3a^{-2}} = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right) \cdot (a^{-4+2}) = \frac{2}{3a^2}$$

$$2.11. \frac{x^5}{y^5} = \left(\frac{x}{y}\right)^5$$

$$2.12. \frac{2y^3}{2y^5} = y^{-2}$$

$$2.13. \left(\frac{2}{a}\right)^4 \cdot \left(\frac{a}{12}\right)^3 = \frac{2^4 \cdot a^3}{a^4 \cdot 12^3} = \frac{16}{1728a} = \frac{1}{108a}$$

$$2.14. \frac{25t^{-4}}{60t^5} = \frac{5}{12t^9}$$

$$2.15. \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-4} \cdot \left(\frac{c}{d}\right)^4 \cdot \left(\frac{e}{f}\right)^4 = \left(\frac{bce}{adf}\right)^4$$

$$2.16. \frac{5^{x+1} \cdot 6^{x+1}}{3^{x+1}} = \left(\frac{5 \cdot 6}{3}\right)^{x+1} = 10^{x+1}$$

$$2.17. a^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot b^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{a}{b}}$$

$$2.18. \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n \cdot \left(\frac{c}{d}\right)^{-n} = \left(\left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{d}{c}\right)\right)^n = \left(\frac{ad}{bc}\right)^n$$

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## Version history and licensing

v1.0: initial version created 08/23 by Isabella Lewis, Akshat Srivastava as part of a University of St Andrews STEP project.

- v1.1: edited 05/24 by tdhc.

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