

## Perfect Squares and Perfect Cubes

Workbook pg. 114

Perfect Squares	
$2^2 = 4$	$\sqrt{4} = 2$
$3^2 = 9$	$\sqrt{9} = 3$
$4^2 = 16$	$\sqrt{16} = 4$
$5^2 = 25$	$\sqrt{25} = 5$
$6^2 = 36$	$\sqrt{36} = 6$
$7^2 = 49$	$\sqrt{49} = 7$
$8^2 = 64$	$\sqrt{64} = 8$
$9^2 = 81$	$\sqrt{81} = 9$
$10^2 = 100$	$\sqrt{100} = 10$
$11^2 = 121$	$\sqrt{121} = 11$
$12^2 = 144$	$\sqrt{144} = 12$

$$13^2 = 169 \quad \sqrt{169} = 13$$

$$14^2 = 196 \quad \sqrt{196} = 14$$

$$15^2 = 225 \quad \sqrt{225} = 15$$

$$20^2 = 400 \quad \sqrt{400} = 20$$

$$30^2 = 900 \quad \sqrt{900} = 30$$

$30 \cdot 30$

Perfect Cubes	
$2^3 = 8$	$\sqrt[3]{8} = 2$
$3^3 = 27$	$\sqrt[3]{27} = 3$
$4^3 = 64$	$\sqrt[3]{64} = 4$
$5^3 = 125$	$\sqrt[3]{125} = 5$
$6^3 = 216$	$\sqrt[3]{216} = 6$
$7^3 = 343$	$\sqrt[3]{343} = 7$
$8^3 = 512$	$\sqrt[3]{512} = 8$
$9^3 = 729$	$\sqrt[3]{729} = 9$
$10^3 = 1,000$	$\sqrt[3]{1,000} = 10$
$11^3 = 1,331$	$\sqrt[3]{1,331} = 11$
$12^3 = 1,728$	$\sqrt[3]{1,728} = 12$

## Other Powers to know

$2^2 \cdot 2^2 = 16$	$\sqrt[4]{16} = 2$
$3^4 = 81$	$\sqrt[4]{81} = 3$
$4^4 = 256$	$\sqrt[4]{256} = 4$
$2^5 = 32$	$\sqrt[5]{32} = 2$
$2^6 = 64$	$\sqrt[6]{64} = 2$

# Nth Root

what number, times itself n times, equals the base?

Find the real cube roots of -64.

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{-64} &= -4 \\ \sqrt[3]{-4 \cdot -4 \cdot -4} & \\ \sqrt[3]{(-4)^3} & \end{aligned}$$

-4

The nth root of a number is the number raised to the 1/n power

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[3]{(-4)^3} &= ((-4)^3)^{\frac{1}{3}} \\ (-4)^{3 \cdot \frac{1}{3}} &= \boxed{-4} \end{aligned}$$

## EXAMPLE 1 Find All Real nth Roots

### Try It!

1. Find the specified roots of each number.

a. real fourth roots of 81

Even Root

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt[4]{81} &= \boxed{3} \\ 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 &= 81 \\ \sqrt[4]{81} &= \boxed{-3} \\ -3 \cdot -3 \cdot -3 \cdot -3 &= 81 \end{aligned}$$

2 answers +

Odd root

b. real cube roots of 64

$$\sqrt[3]{64} = \boxed{4}$$

1 answer

Note: can't take even roots of negative #'s → Imaginary

square root of 64

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{64} &= \sqrt{8 \cdot 8} \\ &= \boxed{8} \\ \sqrt{64} &= \sqrt{-8 \cdot -8} \\ &= \boxed{-8} \end{aligned}$$

7th root of  $x^{14}$

$$\begin{aligned} (x^{14})^{\frac{1}{7}} &= x^{14/7} \\ \sqrt[7]{x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2 \cdot x^2} &= \boxed{x^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (4^2)^3 &= 4^{2 \cdot 3} = 4^6 \\ 4^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 4^2 & \\ 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 \cdot 4 & \end{aligned}$$

## Rational Exponents

Exponents that are fractions

$$x^{\frac{a}{b}} = \sqrt[b]{x^a} = (\sqrt[b]{x})^a$$

Index

Denominator is Root  
Radical Index

Numerator is base's exponent

### EXAMPLE 2 Understand Rational Exponents

Try It!

2. Explain what each fractional exponent means, then evaluate.

a.  $25^{\frac{1}{2}}$  = 5 or -5

$$\sqrt[2]{25} \text{ or } \sqrt{25}$$

b.  $32^{\frac{2}{5}}$

$$\left(\sqrt[5]{32}\right)^2$$

$$(2)^2$$

$$4$$

Rewrite these as radicals and evaluate.

$$27^{1/3}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{27}$$

$$3$$

$$16^{1/4}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{16}$$

$$4^{3/2}$$

$$\left(\sqrt{4}\right)^3$$

$$2^3$$

$$8$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \textcircled{-8}^{2/3} \\
 \downarrow \\
 -\sqrt[3]{8^2} \\
 \downarrow \\
 -\sqrt[3]{64} \\
 \downarrow \\
 \boxed{-4}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (-8)^{2/3} \\
 \sqrt[3]{(-8)^2} \\
 \sqrt[3]{64} \\
 \boxed{4}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 31^{-2/5} \\
 \sqrt[5]{31^{-2}} \text{ or } (\sqrt[5]{31})^{-2} \\
 \sqrt[5]{\frac{1}{31^2}} \\
 \frac{\sqrt[5]{1}}{\sqrt[5]{31^2}} \\
 \frac{1}{(1.987)^2}
 \end{array}$$

$$162^{-4/3}$$

take  
radical  
of top & bottom  
separately

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{\sqrt[5]{961}} \text{ or } \frac{1}{3.95} \text{ or } 0.253}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -32^{3/5} \\
 & - (32)^{\frac{3}{5}} \\
 & - \left( \sqrt[5]{32} \right)^3 \\
 & - (2)^3 \\
 & - 8 \\
 \\
 & 27^{-2/3} = \frac{1}{9} \\
 & \frac{1}{27^{2/3}} \\
 & \frac{1}{\left( \sqrt[3]{27} \right)^2} \\
 & \frac{1}{3^2} \\
 & \frac{1}{9}
 \end{aligned}$$

**EXAMPLE 3** Evaluate Expressions With Rational Exponents**Try It!**

3. What is the value of each expression? Round to the nearest hundredth if necessary.

a.  $-(16^{3/4}) - (16^{3/4})$

$$- \left( \sqrt[4]{16} \right)^3$$

$$- (2)^3$$

$$- 8$$

b.  $\sqrt[5]{3.5^4}$

$$3.5^{4/5}$$

type in calculator

$$3.5 \wedge (4/5)$$

$$2.72$$

B. The Fujita scale rating,  $F$ , of a tornado is represented by

$F = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{W}{14.1}\right)^2} - 2$ , where  $W$  is the estimated wind speed of the tornado in miles per hour. What is the Fujita scale rating of a tornado with estimated wind speeds of 100 mph?

$$F = \sqrt[3]{\left(\frac{100}{14.1}\right)^2} - 2$$

$$F = \left(\frac{100}{14.1}\right)^{2/3} - 2$$

$$(100/14.1) \wedge (2/3) - 2$$

$$F = 1.69$$

F1 tornado

# Simplify Radical expressions

1. Turn into a fractional exponent
2. Apply distribution multiplication of exponents
3. Simplify fraction exponents
4. Any leftover fractions can be changed back to radical form

**IMPORTANT:** Even root requires Absolute Value Bars.  
 These bars remain on any variable with an ODD exponent, to ensure its positivity.



## EXAMPLE 4 Simplify nth Roots

### Try It!

4. Simplify each expression.

a.  $\sqrt[3]{-8a^3b^9}$

Handwritten work shows:  $(-8a^3b^9)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $(-8)^{\frac{1}{3}} a^{\frac{3}{3}} b^{\frac{9}{3}}$   
 $(-8)^{\frac{1}{3}} a^1 b^3$   
 The final answer is boxed:  $-2ab^3$

b.  $\sqrt[4]{256x^{12}y^{24}}$

Handwritten work shows:  $(256x^{12}y^{24})^{\frac{1}{4}}$   
 $256^{\frac{1}{4}} x^{\frac{12}{4}} y^{\frac{24}{4}}$   
 $256^{\frac{1}{4}} x^3 y^6$   
 A box contains:  $4 \mid x^3 \mid y^6$   
 Note: Odd exponent Needs Abs. Value.

need groups of 3

$\sqrt[3]{54x^4}$

Handwritten work shows:  $(54x^4)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $(2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $(2 \cdot 3^3 \cdot x^3 \cdot x)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $2^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot 3^{\frac{3}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{3}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $3 \cdot x \cdot (2 \cdot x)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 Final answer:  $3x\sqrt[3]{2x}$

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These bars remain on any variable with an ODD exponent, to ensure its positivity.

## EXAMPLE 4 Simplify nth Roots

### Try It!

4. Simplify each expression.

a.  $\sqrt[3]{-8a^3b^9}$

$\star (-8a^3b^9)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $(-8)^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot a^{\frac{3}{3}} \cdot b^{\frac{9}{3}}$   
 $\star -2 a^{\frac{3}{3}} b^{\frac{9}{3}}$   
 $\star \boxed{-2ab^3}$

b.  $\sqrt[4]{256x^{12}y^{24}}$

$(256x^{12}y^{24})^{\frac{1}{4}}$   
 $256^{\frac{1}{4}} \cdot x^{\frac{12}{4}} \cdot y^{\frac{24}{4}}$   
 $\boxed{256^{\frac{1}{4}} \cdot x^{\frac{12}{4}} \cdot y^{\frac{24}{4}}}$   

4	x <sup>3</sup>	y <sup>6</sup>
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odd exp. Needs Abs. Value      even expo. no need Abs. Val.

3  $\sqrt[3]{54x^4}$

$\sqrt[3]{27 \cdot 2 \cdot x^3 \cdot x}$   
 $(27 \cdot 2 \cdot x^3 \cdot x)^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $27^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot 2^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{3}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $3x \cdot 2^{\frac{1}{3}} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{3}}$   
 $\boxed{3x \sqrt[3]{2x}}$

Exponent tells  
you # of solutions

- when you take an odd root  
- only 1 answer
- when you take an even root  
- 2 answers + and -
- fill in rest with imaginary, which come in pairs

### EXAMPLE 5 Use $n$ th Roots to Solve Equations

#### Try It!

5. a. Find the real solutions to the equation  $5x^3 = 320$ .

$$\frac{5x^3}{5} = \frac{320}{5}$$

$$x^3 = 64$$

$$\sqrt[3]{x^3} = \sqrt[3]{64}$$

$x = 4$   
and 2 imaginary solutions

b. Find the real solutions to the equation  $2p^4 = 162$ .

$$\frac{2p^4}{2} = \frac{162}{2}$$

$$p^4 = 81$$

$$\sqrt[4]{p^4} = \sqrt[4]{81}$$

$p = \pm 3$   
and 2 imaginary solutions

$$3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 = 81$$

and

$$-3 \cdot -3 \cdot -3 \cdot -3 = 81$$



Radicals and Roots

Index, Radical, Radicand

$$\sqrt[3]{27}$$

under radical

$$\sqrt[3]{\underset{1}{3} \cdot \underset{2}{3} \cdot \underset{3}{3}} = 3$$

Real or Imaginary?

Even indexed radicals must have a positive number underneath as the radicand in order to be a Real number

Odd indexed radicals can have a positive or negative number underneath as the radicand and be a Real number

$\sqrt[4]{16}$	$\sqrt{-25}$	$\sqrt[3]{27}$	$\sqrt[5]{-32}$
$\sqrt[4]{\underline{2} \cdot \underline{2} \cdot \underline{2} \cdot \underline{2}}$	$\underline{-5} \cdot \underline{-5} = \underline{-25}$	$\sqrt[3]{\underline{3} \cdot \underline{3} \cdot \underline{3}}$	$\sqrt[5]{\underline{-2} \cdot \underline{-2} \cdot \underline{-2} \cdot \underline{-2} \cdot \underline{-2}}$
2	Imaginary number 5i	3	-2

Radicals as powers

\*Radicals are fractional exponents!

Numerator - The exponent under the radical of the radicand

Denominator - the index of the radical

Rewrite the following radicals as fractional exponents and simplify.

$\sqrt[4]{16}$	$\sqrt{25x^6}$	$\sqrt[3]{27x^4}$	$\sqrt[5]{-32x^{10}}$
$16^{\frac{1}{4}}$	$25^{\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{6}{2}}$	$27^{\frac{1}{3}} x^{\frac{4}{3}}$	$(-32)^{\frac{1}{5}} x^{\frac{10}{5}}$
$16^{\wedge}(1/4)$	$5x^3$	$3x^{\frac{4}{3}}$	$-2x^2$