

8-2 Study Guide and Intervention

Dividing Monomials

Quotients of Monomials To divide two powers with the same base, subtract the exponents.

Quotient of Powers	For all integers m and n and any nonzero number a , $\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$.
Power of a Quotient	For any integer m and any real numbers a and b , $b \neq 0$, $\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^m = \frac{a^m}{b^m}$.

Example 1 Simplify $\frac{a^4b^7}{ab^2}$. Assume neither a nor b is equal to zero.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{a^4b^7}{ab^2} &= \left(\frac{a^4}{a}\right)\left(\frac{b^7}{b^2}\right) && \text{Group powers with the same base.} \\ &= (a^{4-1})(b^{7-2}) && \text{Quotient of Powers} \\ &= a^3b^5 && \text{Simplify.} \end{aligned}$$

The quotient is a^3b^5 .

Example 2 Simplify $\left(\frac{2a^3b^5}{3b^2}\right)^3$. Assume that b is not equal to zero.

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{2a^3b^5}{3b^2}\right)^3 &= \frac{(2a^3b^5)^3}{(3b^2)^3} && \text{Power of a Quotient} \\ &= \frac{2^3(a^3)^3(b^5)^3}{(3)^3(b^2)^3} && \text{Power of a Product} \\ &= \frac{8a^9b^{15}}{27b^6} && \text{Power of a Power} \\ &= \frac{8a^9b^9}{27} && \text{Quotient of Powers} \end{aligned}$$

The quotient is $\frac{8a^9b^9}{27}$.

Exercises

Simplify. Assume that no denominator is equal to zero.

1. $\frac{5^5}{5^2}$ **5^3 or 125**

2. $\frac{m^6}{m^4}$ **m^2**

3. $\frac{p^5n^4}{p^2n}$ **p^3n^3**

4. $\frac{a^2}{a}$ **a**

5. $\frac{x^5y^3}{x^5y^2}$ **y**

6. $\frac{-2y^7}{14y^5}$ **$-\frac{1}{7}y^2$**

7. $\frac{xy^6}{y^4x}$ **y^2**

8. $\left(\frac{2a^2b}{a}\right)^3$ **$8a^3b^3$**

9. $\left(\frac{4p^4q^4}{3p^2q^2}\right)^3$ **$\frac{64}{27}p^6q^6$**

10. $\left(\frac{2v^5w^3}{v^4w^3}\right)^4$ **$16v^4$**

11. $\left(\frac{3r^6s^3}{2r^5s}\right)^4$ **$\frac{81}{16}r^4s^8$**

12. $\frac{r^7s^7t^2}{s^3r^3t^2}$ **r^4s^4**



8-2 Skills Practice

Dividing Monomials

Simplify. Assume that no denominator is equal to zero.

1. $\frac{6^5}{6^4}$ **6^1 or 6**

2. $\frac{9^{12}}{9^8}$ **9^4 or 6561**

3. $\frac{x^4}{x^2}$ **x^2**

4. $\frac{r^3s^2}{r^3s^4}$ **$\frac{1}{s^2}$**

5. $\frac{m}{m^3}$ **$\frac{1}{m^2}$**

6. $\frac{9d^7}{3d^6}$ **$3d$**

7. $\frac{12n^5}{36n}$ **$\frac{n^4}{3}$**

8. $\frac{w^4u^3}{w^4u}$ **u^2**

9. $\frac{a^3b^5}{ab^2}$ **a^2b^3**

10. $\frac{m^7n^2}{m^3n^2}$ **m^4**

11. $\frac{-21w^5u^2}{7w^4u^5}$ **$-\frac{3w}{u^3}$**

12. $\frac{32x^3y^2z^5}{-8xyz^2}$ **$-4x^2yz^3$**