

Objectives

- Use properties to simplify logarithmic expressions.
- Translate between logarithms in any base.

| Product Property of Logarithms | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| For any positive numbers m , n , and b ($b \neq 1$) | | |
| Words | Numbers | Algebra |
| The logarithm of a product is equal to the sum of the logarithms of its factors. | $\log_3 1000 = \log_3 (10 \cdot 100)$ $= \log_3 10 + \log_3 100$ | $\log_b mn = \log_b m + \log_b n$ |

Example 1

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

$$\log_4 2 + \log_4 32$$

Try it!

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

a) $\log_5 625 + \log_5 25$

b) $\log_{\frac{1}{3}} 27 + \log_{\frac{1}{3}} \frac{1}{9}$

| Quotient Property of Logarithms | | |
|--|---|--|
| For any positive numbers $m, n,$ and b ($b \neq 1$) | | |
| Words | Numbers | Algebra |
| The logarithm of a quotient is the logarithm of the dividend minus the logarithm of the divisor. | $\log_5 \left(\frac{16}{2} \right) = \log_5 16 - \log_5 2$ | $\log_b \frac{m}{n} = \log_b m - \log_b n$ |

Example 2

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

$$\log_2 32 - \log_2 4$$

Try it!

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

a) $\log_7 49 - \log_7 7$

| Power Property of Logarithms | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|
| For any positive numbers $m, n,$ and b ($b \neq 1$) | | |
| Words | Numbers | Algebra |
| The logarithm of a power is the product of the exponent and the logarithm of the base. | $\log 10$ $\log(10 \cdot 10 \cdot 10)$ $\log 10 + \log 10 + \log 10$ $3\log 10$ | $\log_b a^p = p \log_b a$ |

Example 3

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

$$\log_3 81^2$$

Try it!

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

a) $\log 10^4$

b) $\log_5 25^2$

c) $\log_2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^5$

Inverse Properties of Logarithms and ExponentsFor any base b such that $b > 0$ and $b \neq 1$,

| Algebra | Example |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| $\log_b b^x = x$ | $\log_b b^x = x$ |
| $b^{\log_b x} = x$ | $10^{\log_{10} 2} = 2$ |

Example 4

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

a) $\log_8 8^{3x+1}$

b) $\log_5 125$

c) $2^{\log_2 27}$

Try it!

Express as a single logarithm. Simplify if possible.

a) $\log 10^{0.9}$

b) $2^{\log_2(8x)}$

| Change of Base Formula | |
|--|--|
| For $a > 0$ and $a \neq 1$, and any base b such that $b > 0$ and $b \neq 1$, | |
| Algebra | Example |
| $\log_b x = \frac{\log_a x}{\log_a b}$ | $\log_4 8 = \frac{\log_2 8}{\log_2 4}$ |

Example 5

Evaluate $\log_4 8$

a) Method 1 Change to base 10

b) Method 1 Change to base 2,
because both 4 and 8 are powers of 2.

Try it!

a) Evaluate $\log_9 27$

b) Evaluate $\log_8 16$

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