

Objectives

- Simplify rational expressions
- Multiply and divide rational expressions

**Vocabulary**

rational expressions

**Example 1**

**Simplify. Identify any x-values for which the expression is undefined.**

a)  $\frac{3x^7}{2x^4}$

b)  $\frac{x^2 - 2x - 3}{x^2 + 5x + 4}$

**Try it!**

a)  $\frac{16x^{11}}{8x^2}$

b)  $\frac{x^2 - 3x + 2}{x^2 - 5x + 4}$

c)  $\frac{6x^2 + 7x + 2}{3x^2 - 4x - 4}$

**Example 2**

**Simplify. Identify any x-values for which the expression is undefined.**

a) 
$$\frac{2x - x^2}{x^2 - x - 2}$$

**Try it!**

**The Simplify. Identify any x-values for which the expression is undefined.**

a) 
$$\frac{10x - 2x^2}{x - 5}$$

b) 
$$\frac{-x^2 + 3x}{2x^2 - 7x + 3}$$

**Example 3**

**Multiply. Assume all expressions are defined**

a) 
$$\frac{2x^4 y^5}{3x^2} \cdot \frac{15x^2}{8x^3 y^2}$$

b) 
$$\frac{x + 2}{3x + 12} \cdot \frac{x + 4}{x^2 - 4}$$

**Try it!**

a) 
$$\frac{x}{15} \cdot \frac{x^7}{2x} \cdot \frac{20}{x^4}$$

b) 
$$\frac{10x - 40}{x^2 - 6x + 8} \cdot \frac{x + 3}{5x + 15}$$

**Example 4****Divide. Assume all expressions are defined**

a) 
$$\frac{4x^3}{9x^2y} \div \frac{16}{9y^5}$$

b) 
$$\frac{x^5 - 4x^3}{x^2 - x - 2} \div \frac{x^5 - x^4 - 2x^3}{x^2 - 1}$$

*Try it!***Divide. Assume all expressions are defined**

a) 
$$\frac{x^2}{4} \div \frac{x^4y}{12y^2}$$

b) 
$$\frac{2x^2 - 7x - 4}{x^2 - 9} \div \frac{4x^2 - 1}{8x^2 - 28x + 12}$$

**Example 5****Solve. Check your solution.**

a) 
$$\frac{x^2 - 9}{x + 3} = 7$$

b) 
$$\frac{x^2 + 3x - 4}{x - 1} = 5$$

*Try it!***Solve. Check your solution.**

a) 
$$\frac{x^2 + x - 12}{x + 4} = -7$$

b) 
$$\frac{4x^2 - 9}{2x + 3} = 5$$

**Homework: 8.2 pg 580 #1-23 odd**