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### Web Resources

 Monomials

[www.mathwarehouse.com/algebra/polynomial/monomials/how-to-multiply-monomials.php](http://www.mathwarehouse.com/algebra/polynomial/monomials/how-to-multiply-monomials.php)

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<http://www.mathwarehouse.com/algebra/polynomial/>

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## I. Model Problems

A **monomial** is an expression that is a number, variable or product of a number and variables. Examples of monomials:  $-3$ ,  $4x$ ,  $5xy$ ,  $y^2$

To multiply monomials, multiply all the coefficients and all the variables.

**Example 1** Simplify  $2x^3(7x^5)$ .

$$= 14x^3x^5$$

Multiply the coefficients.

$$= 14x^8$$

Multiply variables.

**The answer is  $14x^8$ .**

To divide monomials, divide the coefficients and the variables.

**Example 2** Simplify  $\frac{20x^7y^6}{4x^2y^5}$ .

$$= \frac{5x^7y^6}{x^2y^5}$$

Divide the coefficients.

$$= 5x^4y$$

Divide variables.

**The answer is  $5x^4y$ .**

When you have power of a power, everything inside the parentheses gets raised to the power. You multiply exponents.

**Example 3** Simplify  $(5x^2y^4)^3$ .

$$= 5^3x^{2 \cdot 3}y^{4 \cdot 3}$$

Raise everything to the 3<sup>rd</sup> power.

$$= 125x^6y^{12}$$

Simplify.

**The answer is  $125x^6y^{12}$ .**

To multiply rational expressions with monomials, in the numerator and the denominator, follow the rules of simplifying monomials.

**Example 4** Multiply  $\frac{15x^7y^6}{2x^2y^5} \cdot \frac{xy^6}{5y^3}$ .

$$= \frac{15x^7y^6 \cdot xy^6}{2x^2y^5 \cdot 5y^3}$$

Multiply the numerators and the denominators.

$$= \frac{15x^7y^6 \cdot xy^6}{10x^2y^5 \cdot y^3}$$

Multiply the coefficients.

$$= \frac{15x^8y^{12}}{10x^2y^8}$$

Multiply the variables (add exponents).

$$= \frac{3x^8y^{12}}{2x^2y^8}$$

Simplify coefficients.

$$= \frac{3}{2}x^6y^4$$

Divide variables (subtract exponents).

**The answer is**  $\frac{3}{2}x^6y^4$ .

**Example 5** Multiply  $\frac{(3x^2y^3)^3}{2x^2y^5} \cdot \frac{4x^2y^5}{18y^3}$ .

$$= \frac{27x^6y^9}{2x^2y^5} \cdot \frac{4x^2y^5}{18y^3}$$

Simplify power to a power.

$$= \frac{108x^8y^{14}}{36x^2y^8}$$

Multiply the coefficients and variables.

$$= \frac{3x^8y^{14}}{x^2y^8}$$

Simplify coefficients.

$$= 3x^6y^6$$

Divide variables (subtract exponents).

**The answer is**  $3x^6y^6$ .

## II. Practice

Simplify.

1.  $4x^5(9x^3)$

2.  $-9x^5(7x^7)$

3.  $-7x^5(3x^2)$

4.  $20x^4(3x^9)$

5.  $8x^7y^5(10x^2y)$

6.  $-4x^9y^{15}(3x^9y^5)$

7.  $\frac{20x^{14}}{10x^3}$

8.  $\frac{30x^{13}}{15x^8}$

9.  $\frac{120x^{10}}{10x^5}$

10.  $\frac{45y^{16}}{9y^8}$

11.  $\frac{65x^{19}y^{17}}{13x^5y^5}$

12.  $\frac{-30x^{27}y^{39}}{5x^{10}y^8}$

13.  $(4x^2y^5)^3$

14.  $(2x^3y^2)^5$

15.  $(-2x^3y^7)^3$

16.  $(7x^2yz^4)^2$

17.  $(10x^{24}y^{20})^2$

18.  $(-3x^5y^{10})^3$

19.  $\frac{3x^6y^{11}}{10x^2y^5} \cdot \frac{20x^5y^8}{12x^4y^3}$

20.  $\frac{24x^{12}y^{23}}{4x^7y^{20}} \cdot \frac{15x^3y^3}{25x^2y^2}$

21.  $\frac{24x^{19}y^{20}}{12x^{17}y^{14}} \cdot \frac{15x^{12}y^{19}}{3x^9y^{15}}$

22.  $\frac{14x^8y^6}{7x^3y^3} \cdot \frac{(2x^3y^3)^2}{2x^2y}$

### III. Challenge Problems

**23.** What is the area of a rectangle with length  $6xy^7$  inches and width  $(5x^2y)$  inches? Write your answer as an expression in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ .

**24.** Simplify  $\frac{20x^{19}y^{20}}{8x^{17}y^{14}} \cdot \frac{4x^{54}y^{19}z^{20}}{(2x^9y^{15})^3} \cdot \frac{(4x^{12}y^{19}z)^3}{3x^4y^{15}z^2}$ .

**25.** Correct the Error

There is an error in the student work shown below:

Question:  $(3x^4y^9)^5$ .

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} &= (3x^4y^9)^5 \\ &= 15x^{20}y^{45} \end{aligned}$$

What is the error? Explain how to solve the problem.

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#### IV. Answer Key

1.  $36x^8$

2.  $-63x^{12}$

3.  $-21x^7$

4.  $60x^{13}$

5.  $80x^9y^6$

6.  $-12x^{18}y^{20}$

7.  $2x^{11}$

8.  $2x^5$

9.  $12x^5$

10.  $5y^8$

11.  $5x^{14}y^{12}$

12.  $-6x^{17}y^{31}$

13.  $64x^6y^{15}$

14.  $32x^{15}y^{10}$

15.  $-8x^9y^{21}$

16.  $49x^4y^2z^8$

17.  $100x^{48}y^{40}$

18.  $-27x^{15}y^{30}$

19.  $(1/2)x^6y^{11}$

20.  $(18/5)x^6y^4$

21.  $10x^5y^{10}$

22.  $4x^9y^8$

23.  $30x^2y^8 \text{ in}^2$

24.  $(80/3)x^{61}y^{22}z^{21}$

25. The student multiplied the coefficient by the exponent instead of raising the coefficient to the power. The correct answer is  $243x^{20}y^{45}$ .