

Section 6-6 RATIONAL EXPONENTS

$$b^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{b} \quad b < 0 \text{ and } n \text{ positive integer}$$

Radical form: $\sqrt[3]{27}$

Exponential form
or Rational Exponent form: $27^{\frac{1}{3}}$

Write in radical form: $a^{\frac{1}{5}}$

Write in exponential form: $\sqrt[3]{c}$

Evaluate $8^{\frac{1}{3}} = \sqrt{\quad}$

Evaluate $\left(\frac{8}{125}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} = \sqrt{\quad}$

Evaluate

Evaluate Expressions with Rational Exponents

$$8^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$(2^3)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$2$$

$$16^{-\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\frac{1}{16^{\frac{1}{4}}}$$

$$\frac{1}{(2^4)^{\frac{1}{4}}}$$

$$2$$

$$b^{\frac{m}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{b^m} = (\sqrt[n]{b})^m$$

nonzero real b , integers m, n

$$8^{\frac{2}{3}} = (8^2)^{\frac{1}{3}} \text{ or } \sqrt[3]{8^2} \text{ or } (\sqrt[3]{8})^2$$

$$32^{\frac{2}{5}} = (\sqrt[5]{32})^2 =$$

Simplify means:

Use rational exponents

Positive exponents only

Any exponents in denominator

must be **POSITIVE INTEGERS**

(rationalize if necessary)

$$y^{\frac{1}{7}} \cdot y^{\frac{4}{7}} \rightarrow y^{\frac{1+4}{7}} \rightarrow \boxed{y^{\frac{5}{7}}}$$

Use exponent rules!!!
Use rational expression rules!!

hint: the rule is to subtract exponents

$$\frac{\cancel{x^{\frac{5}{6}}}}{\cancel{x^{\frac{1}{6}}}} \rightarrow$$

$$\sqrt[4]{144x^6}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt[4]{32}}{\sqrt[3]{2}}$$

hint: different index -rewrite with rational exponents

$$\left(a^{\frac{2}{3}}\right)^{\frac{6}{5}} \cdot \left(a^{\frac{2}{5}}\right)^3$$

$$\sqrt[3]{25} \cdot \sqrt{125}$$

$$\frac{144^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{27^{-\frac{1}{3}}}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt[6]{16}}{\sqrt[3]{2}}$$

$$\frac{y^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1}{y^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1}$$