

Algebra 1: Exponent Rules
Guided Notes & Practice

Name _____ Period _____

Any quantity raised to the “zero” power is _____!!!

Use the Zero Exponent Rule to simplify:

- a. $7^0 =$ b. $\pi^0 =$ c. $(-5)^0 =$ d. $-5^0 =$

Properties of Exponents

The Product Rule: $x^a \cdot x^b = x^{a+b}$

Examples:

The Quotient Rule: $\frac{x^a}{x^b} = x^{a-b}$

Examples:

The Power Rule: $(x^a)^b = x^{ab}$

Examples:

Combining more than one rule....

Product to a Power:

$$(2a^2b^2 \cdot a^5)^4 =$$

Quotient to a Power:

$$\left(\frac{-2a^2b^2}{3a^7b}\right)^2 =$$

Practice with Exponents

1. $(5a^2b^3c^4)(6a^3b^4c^2)$

2. $8a^0$

3. $(2b^2)^3$

4. $(-2x^4)^3$

5. $(-4a^2b^5c)^2$

6. $\frac{x^6y^4z}{x^2y^9z^7}$

7. $\left(\frac{2a^3b^5}{3}\right)^2$

8. $\left(\frac{x^5y^2}{x^3y^7}\right)^3$

The Negative Exponent Rule

If x is any real number other than 0 and a is a natural number,

$$x^{-a} =$$

Negative exponents are “unhappy.” So move them up or down and they become happy (“positive”). ☺

$$\frac{1}{x^{-a}} =$$

Using the Negative Exponent Rule

1. 8^{-2}

2. $4x^{-3}$

3. $\frac{2x^4}{5x^{-3}y}$

4. $\frac{2x^{-2}}{4y^{-3}}$

5. $\left(\frac{x^2y^{-4}}{x^3y}\right)^{-2}$

6. $(ab^{-2}c^4)^{-3}$