



$$32^{\frac{1}{5}} = \sqrt[5]{32} = 2$$

$$625^{\frac{1}{4}} = \sqrt[4]{625} = 5$$

In general: $a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a}$

Evaluate.

$$4^{\frac{3}{2}} = (\sqrt{4})^3 = 8$$

$$4^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

Written in radical form:

$$= (\sqrt[2]{4})^3 \text{ or } \sqrt[2]{(4)^3}$$

Rational Exponents:

Definition

Rational Exponents

If the n th root of a is a real number and m is an integer, then

$$a^{\frac{1}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a} \quad \text{and} \quad a^{\frac{m}{n}} = \sqrt[n]{a^m} = (\sqrt[n]{a})^m. \quad \text{If } m \text{ is negative, } a \neq 0.$$

Write in radical form:

1. $w^{\frac{5}{4}}$

$$(\sqrt[4]{w})^5$$

2. $c^{\frac{1}{6}}$

$$\sqrt[6]{c}$$

or $\sqrt[4]{w^5}$

Write with rational exponents.

3. $\sqrt[3]{h^3} = h^{\frac{3}{3}}$

4. $(\sqrt{g})^5 = g^{\frac{5}{2}}$

5. $\sqrt[7]{d} = d^{\frac{1}{7}}$

Simplify each without a calculator.

1. $9^{\frac{3}{2}}$
 $= (\sqrt{9})^3$
 $= 3^3 = 27$

2. $(-8)^{\frac{4}{3}}$
 $= (\sqrt[3]{-8})^4$
 $= (-2)^4 = 16$

3. $5^{\frac{3}{2}}$
 $= \sqrt{5^3}$
 $= \sqrt{5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5}$
 $= 5\sqrt{5}$

4. $\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt[3]{x}$

$$x^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{3}} = x^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}} = x^{\frac{3}{6} + \frac{2}{6}} = x^{\frac{5}{6}}$$

Simplify each. Write answer without negative exponents or decimal exponents

1. $w^{3.5}$ $w^{-7/2}$

2. $\left(m^{\frac{5}{2}}\right)^{-6} = m^{-15} = \frac{1}{m^{15}}$

3. $\left(a^{\frac{7}{8}} b^{\frac{5}{9}}\right)^{12}$
 $a^{2\frac{1}{2}} b^{20\frac{2}{3}}$

Hwk #1

Sec 7-4

Pages 388-389

Problems 11, 12, 18, 22, 47, 48

Evaluate without a calculator.

$\left(7^{\sqrt{2}}\right)^{\sqrt{2}}$

$7^{\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{2}} = 7^2 = 49$

Find all the real fourth roots of 4096

± 8

Find all the real fifth roots of -1024

-4

All positive numbers have:

2 Square Roots \pm
1 Cube Root $+$
2 Fourth Roots \pm
1 Fifth Root $+$
2 Sixth Roots \pm
1 Seventh Root $+$

•
•
•

All Negative numbers have:

0 Square Roots
1 Cube Root $-$
0 Fourth Roots
1 Fifth Root $-$
0 Sixth Roots
1 Seventh Root $-$

•
•
•

In general:

All positive numbers have:

2 Even Roots \pm
1 Odd Root $+$

All Negative numbers have:

0 Even Roots
1 Odd Root $-$