

Naming Polynomials by their Degree

Degree	Name	Example
0	Constant	3, -10, 15, 12
1	Linear	$2x + 1$
2	Quadratic	$x^2 - 4x$
3	Cubic	$y^3 + 2y$
4	Quartic	$x^4 - x^3 + 2x + 1$
5	Quintic	$x^5 - y^2$
6	Sixth degree	$z^6 + z^4 + z^2$

Naming Polynomials by their Number of Terms

Number of Terms	Name	Examples
1	Monomial	$3x$
2	binomial	$2x + 4$
3	trinomial	$x^2 + 3x + 4$
4 or more	polynomial	$4x^3 + 2x^2 + 4x - 1$

Ex:

$$4y^3 - 4y^2 + 3 - y$$

Standard form: $4y^3 - 4y^2 - y + 3$
 Name: Cubic Polynomial

an expression that is a number, variable or a product of numbers and variables.

- Exponents must 0 or positive whole #s

These are monomials

12 (constant)

y

$12y$

$\frac{4}{3}$

$-5x^2y$

Monomials are named based on their degree. The degree is the sum of the exponents on the variables.
Ex: $2x^1$: Degree: 1 $7x^3y^2$ Degree: 4

Ex: $2^2a^4b^2$ Degree: 6

Monomial
(one) (term)

These are not monomials

$\frac{2}{x}$, $\sqrt{x} = x^{1/2}$

$3xy^{-2}$, $(x+2)$

A polynomial can be a monomial or the sum or difference of 2 or more monomials.

- Must always be written in standard form

highest $ax^3 + bx + c$

constant

These are Polynomials

$3x^4 + 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 5$

$4xy$

$7x + 10$

$4xy^2 + 2x^2y$

Polynomial
(many) (terms)

Polynomials are named based on degree (highest exponent) and number of terms.

These are not polynomials

$3x^{-4} + 2x^2$

$\frac{3}{x-5} + 5$

$\sqrt{x}$