

Algebra II 6.5 Properties of Logarithms

Key

Obj: Use the properties of logs to rewrite equations

Fill in the table with the corresponding properties of exponents.

Properties of Exponents		
$a^m \cdot a^n = a^{m+n}$	$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$	$(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$

Take note

Properties Properties of Logarithms

For any positive numbers  $m, n$ , and  $b$  where  $b \neq 1$ , the following properties apply.

Product Property

$$\log_b mn = \log_b m + \log_b n$$

Quotient Property

$$\log_b \frac{m}{n} = \log_b m - \log_b n$$

Power Property

$$\log_b m^n = n \log_b m$$

Use the properties of logarithms to complete each equation.

$$\log 20 = \log (5 \cdot 4) = \log 5 + \log 4$$

$$\log_5 (x^9) = 9 \log_5 x$$

$$\log_2 24 - \log_2 3 = \log_2 \frac{24}{3} = \log_2 8$$

$$\log_3 (5x^4) = \log_3 5 + \log_3 x^4 = \log_3 5 + 4 \log_3 x$$

**Example 2:** Expanding Logarithms. (separate all products or quotients first)

a.  $\log_5 a^2 b^7$

$$\log_5 a^2 + \log_5 b^7 \quad \text{prod.}$$

$$2 \log_5 a + 7 \log_5 b \quad \text{power}$$

b.  $\ln \frac{25}{3}$

$$= \ln 25 - \ln 3 \quad \text{Quot.}$$

You try.

a.  $\log_7 \frac{r^3 t^4}{v}$

$$\log_7 r^3 + \log_7 t^4 - \log_7 v$$

$$3 \log_7 r + 4 \log_7 t - \log_7 v$$

b.  $\log \frac{7}{225}$

$$\log 7 - \log 225$$

c.  $\log_7 \frac{x^2}{3v}$

$$\log_7 x^2 - \log_7 3v$$

$$2\log_7 x - (\log_7 3 + \log_7 v)$$

$$2\log_7 x - \log_7 3 - \log_7 v$$

anything in  
denom. will  
be subtracted  
if separate

**Example 3: Simplifying Logarithms**

What is each expression written as a single logarithm? Simplify the single logarithm if possible. Hint: Bring in coefficients as exponents first.

write log  
only once  
in answer

a.  $4\log_4 m + 3\log_4 n - \log_4 p$

$$\log_4 m^4 + \log_4 n^3 - \log_4 p$$

$$\log_4 \frac{m^4 n^3}{p}$$

b.  $3\ln 2 - 2\ln 5$

$$\ln 2^3 - \ln 5^2$$

$$\ln 8 - \ln 25$$

$$\ln \frac{8}{25}$$

You try.

a.  $5\log_2 c - 7\log_2 n - \log_2 p$

$$\log_2 c^5 - \log_2 n^7 - \log_2 p$$

$$\log_2 \frac{c^5 n^7}{p}$$

b.  $2\ln 7 + \ln 2$

$$\ln 7^2 + \ln 2$$

$$\ln 98$$

Use the properties of logs to solve an unknown.

Given  $\log_3 5 = 1.4650$  and  $\log_3 20 = 2.7268$ , Find

a.  $\log_3 100$

write  
100 as  
product, power  
or quotient of  
givens

$$\log_3 5 \cdot 20$$

$$\log_3 5 + \log_3 20$$

$$1.4650 + 2.7268$$

$$4.1918$$

b.  $\log_3 4$

$$\log_3 \frac{20}{5}$$

$$\log_3 20 - \log_3 5$$

$$2.7268 - 1.4650$$

$$1.2618$$

c.  $\log_3 125$

$$\log_3 5^3$$

$$3\log_3 5$$

$$3(1.4650)$$

$$4.3950$$

**Example 4.** Apply properties of logs.

The pH of a solution is a measure of its concentration of hydrogen ions. This concentration (measured in moles per liter) is written  $[H^+]$  and is given by the formula  $pH = \log \frac{1}{[H^+]}$

What is the concentration of hydrogen ions in the acid rainfall?

$$4.5 = \log \frac{1}{[H^+]} \rightarrow 0$$

$$4.5 = \log 1 - \log H^+$$

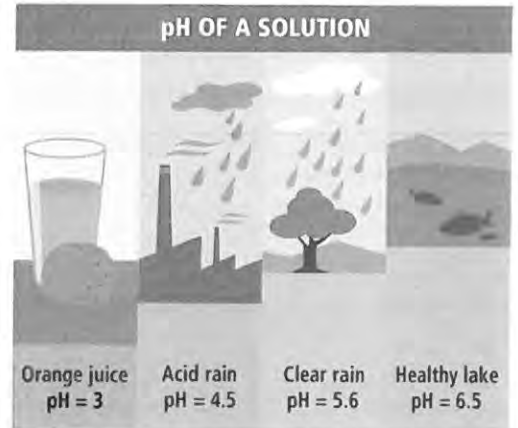
$$-4.5 = \log H^+ \quad 10^{-4.5} = H^+$$

What is the concentration of ions in a liter of OJ?

$$3 = \log \frac{1}{[H^+]}$$

$$3 = \log 1 - \log H^+$$

$$-3 = \log H^+ \quad 10^{-3} = H^+$$



Find the approximate value of any log

Change of base formula

$$\log_b m = \frac{\log m}{\log b} \text{ or } \frac{\ln m}{\ln b}$$

you can use any base but  $\ln + \log$  are the most common

**Example 5:** Using the Change of Base Formula

a.  $\log_2 3 \approx \frac{\log 3}{\log 2} \approx 1.585$

b.  $\log_2 7 \approx \frac{\log 7}{\log 2} \approx$

or  $\frac{\ln 3}{\ln 2} \approx 1.585$

**Example 6.** Use change of base to solve  $b^x$  equations. use  $\ln$  or  $\log$ .

a.  $2^x = 7$   
 rewrite  
 $\log 2^x = \log 7$   
 $x \log 2 = \log 7$  power rule  
 $x = \frac{\log 7}{\log 2} =$

b.  $3^x = 15$   
 $\ln 3^x = \ln 15$   
 $x \ln 3 = \ln 15$   
 $x = \frac{\ln 15}{\ln 3}$

