

2-6-5 Roots

$\sqrt{9} = 3$ because 3 times 3 is 9

$\sqrt{25} = 5$ because 5 times 5 is 25

When working a square root problem, ask:

"What times itself is the number inside the root symbol?"

$\sqrt[3]{27} = 3$ because $3 \times 3 \times 3$ is 27. The small 3 outside the root symbol tells how many times the answer must be multiplied to get the number inside the root.

$\sqrt[5]{32} = 2$ because $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$ or $2^5 = 32$

Practice: Simplify.

a) $\sqrt[3]{64} =$	$\sqrt[3]{125} =$	$\sqrt[3]{216} =$
b) $\sqrt[4]{81} =$	$\sqrt[5]{1024} =$	$\sqrt[6]{64} =$
c) $\sqrt[4]{625} =$	$\sqrt[5]{243} =$	$\sqrt[5]{100000} =$
d) $\sqrt[3]{8} =$	$\sqrt[4]{16} =$	$\sqrt[4]{256} =$

Prime number: a number with only factor of 1 and itself. 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23... are prime numbers. 15 is not prime because 3 and 5 also divide it evenly. 15 is a **composite number**.

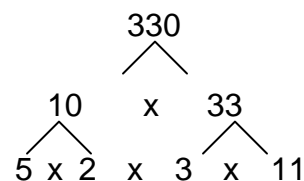
Prime factorization is writing a number using multiplication of only prime numbers.

12 can be written as 3×4 , but 4 is not prime and can be written as 2×2 ,

so the prime factorization of $12 = 3 \times 2 \times 2$. This can be written 3×2^2 .

To write 330 using its prime factorization, start breaking it up into smaller factors until there are no more composite numbers.

$330 = 33 \times 10 = 3 \times 11 \times 2 \times 5$



Practice: Write the prime factorization for the following.

- | | | | |
|---------|--------|------|------|
| a) 12 | 8 | 27 | 100 |
| b) 56 | 28 | 36 | 32 |
| c) 50 | 42 | 18 | 25 |
| d) 75 | 48 | 360 | 72 |
| e) 7875 | 50176 | 7200 | 3136 |
| f) 405 | 432 | 5488 | 9375 |
| g) 864 | 442368 | 3600 | 1225 |

Simplifying roots. You won't be using the root button on your calculator for these.

$\sqrt{45} = \sqrt{3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}$ First write the number as it's prime factorization.
 $= \sqrt{3^2} \cdot \sqrt{5} = 3\sqrt{5}$ Then, because this was a square root, a pair of 3s can be simplified to a 3 outside the root. To get an exact answer, leave the 5 inside the root rather than using a calculator.

$\sqrt[4]{19440}$ Prime factorization $\sqrt[4]{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}$ four 2's and four 3's and fourth root
 so $\sqrt[4]{2^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{3^4} \cdot \sqrt[4]{3 \cdot 5} = 2 \cdot 3 \sqrt[4]{15} = 6\sqrt[4]{15}$ This is the simplest form of the root.

Practice: Write the roots in simplest form.

- a) $\sqrt{75} = \sqrt{5 \cdot 5 \cdot 3} = 5\sqrt{3}$ $\sqrt{245} =$ $\sqrt{18} =$ $\sqrt{28} =$
- b) $\sqrt{300} = \sqrt{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 5} = 2 \cdot 5\sqrt{3} = 10\sqrt{3}$ $\sqrt{360} =$ $\sqrt{1125} =$ $\sqrt{392} =$
- c) $\sqrt{576} =$ $\sqrt{968} =$ $\sqrt{3600} =$ $\sqrt{2700} =$
- d) $\sqrt{2016} =$ $\sqrt{3528} =$ $\sqrt{70000} =$ $\sqrt{1575} =$
- e) $\sqrt[3]{500} = \sqrt[3]{5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 2 \cdot 2} = 5\sqrt[3]{4}$ $\sqrt[3]{1080} =$ $\sqrt[3]{576} =$ $\sqrt[3]{2744} =$
- f) $\sqrt[4]{400} = \sqrt[4]{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 \cdot 5} = 2\sqrt[4]{25}$ $\sqrt[4]{567} =$ $\sqrt[4]{20000} =$ $\sqrt[4]{1296} =$

Using a calculator will give an approximation.

In the example above $\sqrt[4]{19440} \approx 11.81$ rounded to the nearest hundredth.

To use your calculator, you need to learn another notation.

Rule: $\sqrt[y]{x} = x^{1/y}$

Example: $\sqrt[4]{52} = 52^{1/4} = 52^{0.25}$ On your calculator find the x^y button or y^x . Type 52 then hit the y^x button. Then type .25 = 2.69 (Rounded)

Practice: First, rewrite the root using a fractional exponent. Then use your calculator to find the answer rounded to the nearest hundredth.

g)	$\sqrt[4]{123} = 123^{1/4}$ type 123 y^x then .25 =	$\sqrt[5]{159} \approx$	$\sqrt[10]{100000} \approx$
h)	$\sqrt[3]{25} = 25^{1/3}$ type 25 y^x then (1/3)=	$\sqrt[4]{578} \approx$	$\sqrt[3]{951} \approx$
i)	$\sqrt[4]{5^3} = 5^{3/4} = 5^{.75} \approx$	$\sqrt[3]{5^2} = 5^{2/3} \approx$	$\sqrt[3]{8^5} =$
j)	$\sqrt{20} \approx$	$\sqrt{48} \approx$	$\sqrt{345} \approx$

All the rules that work for exponents work for these fractional exponents. This is learned and practiced in future math classes.