

1.7 B Exponent Laws (Power of a Power)

Ex. 1 Write as a single power, without changing the base.

a)  $(2^2)^4$



Power of a Power

A base to the power of a power is the base to the product of the exponents

$$(a^m)^n = a^{m \cdot n}$$

b)  $(3^3)^2$

Ex. 2 Simplify

a)  $(xy^2)^3$



Power of a Product

The exponents is applied to each part of the base

$$(ab)^n = a^n b^n$$

b)  $(2x^5)^4$

Ex. 3 Simplify then evaluate if possible

a)  $\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^3$



Power of a Quotient

The exponents is applied to each part of the base

$$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n = \frac{a^n}{b^n}$$

b)  $\left(\frac{5}{x}\right)^2$

Ex 4: Simplify (using the laws of exponents)

Be careful of the coefficients

Raise the coefficient  
by the exponent

Multiply the exponents

$$(4m^3)^2$$

Exponent Laws



1. Simplify (using the laws of exponents)

Multiply powers

$$m^3 \cdot m^4 =$$

⇒ Add exponents

Divide powers

$$m^6 \div m =$$

⇒ Subtract exponents

Power of a power

$$(m^6)^3 =$$

⇒ Multiply exponents

2. Simplify (using the laws of exponents)

Multiplication

$$3m^2 \cdot 4m^5 =$$

⇒ Multiply the coefficients

Division

$$50m^8 \div 2m^3 =$$

⇒ Divide the coefficients

Power of a Power

$$(4m^3)^2 =$$

⇒ Exponent affects each part of the base

Ex. 1 Simplify

a)  $(a^2b^3)^4$

b)  $(-4m^2)^3$

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

d)  $\frac{(5c^3d)(4c^2d^2)}{(2c^2d)^2}$

e)  $\frac{(-3m^2n^6)(2m^4n^8)^3}{(4mn^2)^3}$

f)  $\frac{(2m^3)^4}{24m^5}$

1.7B  
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Handout 1.7 B

