

## 6.3 – Properties of Logarithms

I can use properties of logarithms to condense logarithms.

I can use properties of logarithms to expand logarithms.

I can use the properties of logarithms to solve equations

### PROPERTIES OF LOGARITHMS

Let  $b$ ,  $m$ , and  $n$  be positive numbers such that  $b \neq 1$ .

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

#### Your Notes

When you are expanding or condensing an expression involving logarithms, you may assume any variables are positive.

#### Example 2 Expand a logarithmic expression

Expand  $\log_3 \frac{7x^2}{y}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \log_3 \frac{7x^2}{y} &= \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ &= \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ &= \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \end{aligned}$$

Quotient property  
Product property  
Power property

#### Example 3 Condense a logarithmic expression

Condense  $\log 2 + 3 \log 3 - \log 9$ .

$$\log 2 + 3 \log 3 - \log 9$$

$$= \log 2 + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} - \log 9$$

Power property

$$= \log \underline{\hspace{1cm}} - \log 9$$

Product property

$$= \log \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Quotient property

$$= \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Simplify.

#### Solve Logarithmic Equations

Solve the logarithmic equation.

$$\log_3 x + \log_3 (x - 4) = \log_3 12$$

Use a property of logarithms to combine the left side of the equation.

Use the equality property of logarithms to write and solve a new equation.

Check for extraneous solutions in the original equation.

**Example 6****Check for extraneous solutions**Solve  $\log 5x + \log(x - 1) = 2$ .

$$\log 5x + \log(x - 1) = 2$$

Write original equation.

$$\log[\underline{\hspace{2cm}}] = 2$$

Product property of logarithms

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Exponentiate each side.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$b^{\log_b x} = x$$

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Distributive property

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Write in standard form.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Divide each side by \_\_\_\_.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Factor.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} \text{ or } \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Zero product property

**Solve each equation. Check your solutions.**

1  $\log_{10} 27 = 3 \log_{10} x$

2  $\log_4 5 + \log_4 x = \log_4 60$

3  $\log_5 y - \log_5 8 = \log_5 1$

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#### Your Notes

When you are expanding or condensing an expression involving logarithms, you may assume any variables are positive.

#### Example 2 Expand a logarithmic expression

Expand  $\log_3 \frac{7x^2}{y}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \log_3 \frac{7x^2}{y} &= \log_3 7x^2 - \log_3 y && \text{Quotient property} \\ &= \log_3 7 + \log_3 x^2 - \log_3 y && \text{Product property} \\ &= \log_3 7 + 2\log_3 x - \log_3 y && \text{Power property} \end{aligned}$$

#### Example 3 Condense a logarithmic expression

Condense  $\log 2 + 3 \log 3 - \log 9$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \log 2 + 3 \log 3 - \log 9 & \\ &= \log 2 + \log 3^3 - \log 9 && \text{Power property} \\ &= \log \frac{2(3)^3}{9} - \log 9 && \text{Product property} \\ &= \log \frac{2(3)^3}{9} && \text{Quotient property} \\ &= \log 6 && \text{Simplify.} \end{aligned}$$

#### Solve Logarithmic Equations

Solve the logarithmic equation.

$$\log_3 x + \log_3 (x - 4) = \log_3 12$$

Use a property of logarithms to combine the left side of the equation.

$$\log_3 x(x-4) = \log_3 12$$

Use the equality property of logarithms to write and solve a new equation.

$$x(x-4) = 12$$

Check for extraneous solutions in the original equation.

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - 4x &= 12 \\ x^2 - 4x - 12 &= 0 \\ (x-6)(x+2) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = 6 \text{ or } -2 \quad x = -2 \text{ is extraneous}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Solution } x = 6}$$

**Example 6** Check for extraneous solutionsSolve  $\log 5x + \log(x - 1) = 2$ .

$$\log 5x + \log(x - 1) = 2$$

Write original equation.

$$\log[5x(x-1)] = 2$$

Product property of logarithms

$$10^{\log 5x(x-1)} = 10^2$$

Exponentiate each side.

$$5x(x-1) = 100$$

 $b^{\log_b x} = x$ 

$$5x^2 - 5x = 100$$

Distributive property

$$5x^2 - 5x - 100 = 0$$

Write in standard form.

$$x^2 - x - 20 = 0$$

Divide each side by 5.

$$(x-5)(x+4) = 0$$

Factor.

$$x = 5 \text{ or } x = -4$$

Zero product property

extraneous

Solve each equation. Check your solutions.

1  $\log_{10} 27 = 3 \log_{10} x$   
 $\log_{10} 27 = \log_{10} x^3$   
 $27 = x^3$   
 $x = 3$

2  $\log_4 5 + \log_4 x = \log_4 60$   
 $\log_4 5x = \log_4 60$   
 $5x = 60$   
 $x = 12$

3  $\log_5 y - \log_5 8 = \log_5 1$   
 $\log_5 \frac{y}{8} = \log_5 1$

$$\frac{y}{8} = 1$$

$$y = 8$$