

Unit 5 Day 4: The Quotient Rule of Exponents

Focus Question: How do you divide when powers have the same base?

A. 1. Write each of the following in expanded form. Then write the answer in exponential form with a single base and power.

Problem	Expanded form	Single base and power
Example: $\frac{2^6}{2^4}$	$\frac{\cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot 2 \cdot 2}{\cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{2}} = \frac{2^2}{1}$	2^2
a) $\frac{3^5}{3^2}$		
b) $5^7 \div 5^1$	$\frac{\cancel{5} \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 5}{\cancel{5}} = \frac{5^6}{1}$	5^6
c) $\frac{x^9}{x^4}$	$\frac{\cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x \cdot x}{\cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x} \cdot \cancel{x}} = \frac{x^5}{1}$	x^5
d) $y^4 \div y^1$		y^3
e) $\frac{a^7}{a^2}$		a^5

2. Finish the following equation to express the Quotient Rule of Exponent (assume $a \neq 0$)

$$\frac{a^m}{a^n} = a^{m-n}$$

3. Why can the base not equal zero? (ie. $\frac{0^3}{0^2}$)

4. Explain **when** you can use the quotient rule? *the same base is being divided*

B. 1. Practice showing work but not writing expanded form.

Problem	Work	Exponential Form
$\frac{7^8}{7^2}$	7^{8-2}	7^6
$4^3 \div 4^{-7}$	$4^{3-(-7)}$	4^{10}
$\frac{x^9}{x^3}$	x^{9-3}	x^6
$m^1 \div m^{-7}$	$m^{1-(-7)}$	m^8

$\frac{b^{20}}{b^4}$	b^{20-4}	b^{16}
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If you ever forget the shortcut...use expanded form.

2. Challenge Problems

Simplify each expression or put numbers in the box to make the equation true.

a.

$$\frac{x^{-1}}{x^{-8}}$$

$$x^{-1-(-8)} = x^7$$

b.

$$\frac{6^5}{6^3}$$

$$6^{5-3} = 6^2$$

c. $\frac{h^{18}}{h^4} = h^{14}$

d.

$$\frac{24x^6}{12x^{-8}}$$

$$\frac{24}{12} x^{6-(-8)} = 2x^{14}$$

e.

$$\frac{6x^7}{2x^4}$$

$$3x^3$$

f.

$$\frac{10k^6}{2k^3} = 5k^3$$

g.

$$\frac{8x^5}{4x^2}$$

$$2x^3$$

h.

$$\frac{x^5y^6}{xy^2}$$

$$x^{5-1}y^{6-2} = x^4y^4$$

i.

$$\frac{18x^5y^3}{6x^2y^2}$$

$$\frac{18}{6} x^{5-2} y^{3-2} = 3x^3y$$

j.

$$\frac{10^{12}}{10^4} = 10^8$$