

SURDS

Page	Description
1	Simplifying square roots of numbers 1 to 100
2	Simplify square roots. Combine square roots for times and divides
3	Combine square roots for adds, takes, times and divides
4	Recap on key skills. Adding, taking, times and divides
5	Recap on key skills. Multiplying out single and double brackets
6	Rationalising the denominator of a fraction

1	1	2	✗	3	✗	4	2	5	✗	6	✗	7	✗	8	2√2	9	3	10	✗
11	✗	12	2√3	13	✗	14	✗	15	✗	16	4	17	✗	18	3√2	19	✗	20	2√5
21	✗	22	✗	23	✗	24	2√6	25	5	26	✗	27	3√3	28	2√7	29	✗	30	✗
31	✗	32	4√2	33	✗	34	✗	35	✗	36	6	37	✗	38	✗	39	✗	40	2√10
41	✗	42	✗	43	✗	44	2√11	45	3√5	46	✗	47	✗	48	4√3	49	7	50	5√2
51	✗	52	2√13	53	✗	54	3√6	55	✗	56	2√14	57	✗	58	✗	59	✗	60	2√15
61	✗	62	✗	63	3√7	64	8	65	✗	66	✗	67	✗	68	2√17	69	✗	70	✗
71	✗	72	6√2	73	✗	74	✗	75	5√3	76	2√19	77	✗	78	✗	79	✗	80	4√5
81	9	82	✗	83	✗	84	2√21	85	✗	86	✗	87	✗	88	2√22	89	✗	90	3√10
91	✗	92	2√23	93	✗	94	✗	95	✗	96	4√6	97	✗	98	7√2	99	3√11	100	10

Numbers and their square roots that can be SIMPLIFIED

Numbers from 1 to 100 that have a SQUARE NUMBER as a factor. Starting with the highest square numbers going to the lowest. (49, 36, 25, 16, 9, 4)

49	98 = 49 x 2 √98 = 7√2	36	72 = 36 x 2 √72 = 6√2	25	50 = 25 x 2 √50 = 5√2	75 = 25 x 3 √75 = 5√3	100 = 25 x 4 *
16	32 = 16 x 2	48 = 16 x 3	64 = 16 x 4 *	80 = 16 x 5	96 = 16 x 6		
9	18 = 9 x 2	27 = 9 x 3	36 = 9 x 4 *	45 = 9 x 5	54 = 9 x 6	63 = 9 x 7	72 = 9 x 8 *
	81 = 9 x 9 *	90 = 9 x 10	99 = 9 x 11				
4	8 = 4 x 2	12 = 4 x 3	16 = 4 x 4 *	20 = 4 x 5	24 = 4 x 6	28 = 4 x 7	32 = 4 x 8 *
	36 = 4 x 9 *	40 = 4 x 10	44 = 4 x 11	48 = 4 x 12 *	52 = 4 x 13	56 = 4 x 14	60 = 4 x 15
	64 = 4 x 16 *	68 = 4 x 17	72 = 4 x 18 *	76 = 4 x 19	80 = 4 x 20 *	84 = 4 x 21	88 = 4 x 22
	92 = 4 x 23	96 = 4 x 24 *	100 = 4 x 25 *				

* means already done



Surds - the first few square numbers are 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100

	Find the largest square number factor		
$\sqrt{32}$	$\sqrt{16 \times 2}$	$\sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{2}$	$4\sqrt{2}$
$\sqrt{8}$	$\sqrt{4 \times 2}$	$\sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{2}$	$2\sqrt{2}$
$\sqrt{50}$	$\sqrt{25 \times 2}$	$\sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{2}$	$5\sqrt{2}$
$\sqrt{27}$	$\sqrt{9 \times 3}$	$\sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{3}$	$3\sqrt{3}$
$\sqrt{48}$	$\sqrt{16 \times 3}$	$\sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{3}$	$4\sqrt{3}$
$\sqrt{98}$	$\sqrt{49 \times 2}$	$\sqrt{49} \times \sqrt{2}$	$7\sqrt{2}$
$\sqrt{12}$	$\sqrt{4 \times 3}$	$\sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{3}$	$2\sqrt{3}$
$\sqrt{20}$	$\sqrt{4 \times 5}$	$\sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{5}$	$2\sqrt{5}$
$\sqrt{18}$	$\sqrt{9 \times 2}$	$\sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{2}$	$3\sqrt{2}$
$\sqrt{24}$	$\sqrt{4 \times 6}$	$\sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{6}$	$2\sqrt{6}$
$\sqrt{75}$	$\sqrt{25 \times 3}$	$\sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{3}$	$5\sqrt{3}$

Simplify

- 1) $\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{8} = \sqrt{2 \times 8} = \sqrt{16} = 4$
- 2) $4 \times \sqrt{8} = 4 \times 2\sqrt{2} = 8\sqrt{2}$
- 3) $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{12} = \sqrt{3 \times 12} = \sqrt{36} = 6$
- 4) $(\sqrt{2})^2 = \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} = \sqrt{4} = 2$
- 5) $3\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{12} = 3\sqrt{3} \times 2\sqrt{3} = 6 \times \sqrt{9} = 6 \times 3 = 18$
- 6) $\frac{\sqrt{12}}{\sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{\frac{12}{3}} = \sqrt{4} = 2$
- 7) $\frac{\sqrt{54}}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{54}{2}} = \sqrt{27} = 3\sqrt{3}$
- 8) $(\sqrt{3})^4 = \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}$
 $= \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{9}$
 $= 3 \times 3$
 $= 9$ (2)

Rules for Surds (Writing numbers using square roots)

Addition and Subtraction

1) $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2} = 2\sqrt{2}$

2) $\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5} = 3\sqrt{5}$

3) $\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{2} = 4\sqrt{2}$

4) $2\sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{3} = 7\sqrt{3}$

5) $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{3} = \text{cannot simplify}$

6) $4\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{3} = 2\sqrt{3}$

7) $\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{2} = \text{cannot simplify}$

8) $4\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5} = 5\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}$

Multiplication

7) $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{5} = \sqrt{3 \times 5} = \sqrt{15}$

8) $\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{7} = \sqrt{2 \times 7} = \sqrt{14}$

9) $\sqrt{7} \times \sqrt{6} = \sqrt{7 \times 6} = \sqrt{42}$

10) $3 \times \sqrt{5} = 3\sqrt{5}$

11) $4 \times \sqrt{3} = 4\sqrt{3}$

12) $\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{12} = \sqrt{3 \times 12} = \sqrt{36} = 6$

Division

13) $\frac{\sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{4}} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{4}} = \sqrt{2}$

14) $\frac{\sqrt{18}}{\sqrt{6}} = \sqrt{\frac{18}{6}} = \sqrt{3}$

15) $\frac{\sqrt{15}}{3} = \text{cannot simplify}$

16) $\frac{\sqrt{18}}{6} = \frac{3\sqrt{2}}{6} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$

17) $\frac{\sqrt{18}}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{18}{2}} = \sqrt{9} = 3$

Surds, the Key Skills

1 Finding the highest SQUARE NUMBER FACTOR.

The first few square numbers are 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81, 100

$$\sqrt{48} = \sqrt{16 \times 3} = \sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{3} = 4\sqrt{3} \quad \sqrt{32} = \sqrt{16 \times 2} = 4\sqrt{2}$$

2 ADDING AND TAKING LIKE TERMS

$$a) 3\sqrt{2} + 4\sqrt{2} = 7\sqrt{2}$$

$$b) 5\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{3} = 4\sqrt{3}$$

$$c) 6\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{2} = 9\sqrt{2}$$

$$d) 5\sqrt{7} + 2\sqrt{7} = 7\sqrt{7}$$

$$e) 6\sqrt{5} - 4\sqrt{5} = 2\sqrt{5}$$

$$f) 3\sqrt{2} + 7\sqrt{2} - 6\sqrt{2} = 4\sqrt{2}$$

Making them the same

$$g) \sqrt{8} + \sqrt{18} =$$

$$2\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{2} = 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$h) \sqrt{12} + \sqrt{48} =$$

$$2\sqrt{3} + 4\sqrt{3} = 6\sqrt{3}$$

$$i) 3\sqrt{8} + \sqrt{50} =$$

$$3 \times 2\sqrt{2} + 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$6\sqrt{2} + 5\sqrt{2} = 11\sqrt{2}$$

$$j) \sqrt{90} - \sqrt{40} =$$

$$3\sqrt{10} - 2\sqrt{10} = \sqrt{10}$$

$$k) 3\sqrt{96} - 2\sqrt{24} =$$

$$3 \times 4\sqrt{6} - 2 \times 2\sqrt{6}$$

$$12\sqrt{6} - 4\sqrt{6} = 8\sqrt{6}$$

$$l) 5\sqrt{63} + 2\sqrt{28} =$$

$$5 \times 3\sqrt{7} + 2 \times 2\sqrt{7}$$

$$15\sqrt{7} + 4\sqrt{7} = 19\sqrt{7}$$

3 TIMES and DIVIDES

$$\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{8} = \sqrt{2 \times 8} = \sqrt{16} = 4$$

$$2 \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{6} = 2 \times \sqrt{3 \times 6} = 2 \times \sqrt{18}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{8}{2}} = \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$a) \sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{10} = \sqrt{50} \\ = 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$b) \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{32} = \sqrt{64} = 8$$

$$c) \sqrt{6} \times \sqrt{10} = \sqrt{60} \\ = 2\sqrt{15}$$

$$d) \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} = \sqrt{9} = 3$$

$$e) \frac{\sqrt{20}}{\sqrt{10}} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$f) \frac{\sqrt{80}}{\sqrt{20}} = \sqrt{4} = 2 \quad g) \frac{\sqrt{27}}{\sqrt{3}} = \sqrt{9} = 3 \quad h) \frac{\sqrt{50}}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{25} = 5$$

4

4 MULTIPLYING BRACKETS

Single bracket $\sqrt{2}(1 + \sqrt{2}) = \sqrt{2} \times 1 + \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2}$

a) $\sqrt{3}(2 + \sqrt{3}) = \sqrt{3} \times 2 + \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} = 2\sqrt{3} + 3$

b) $\sqrt{6}(\sqrt{6} - 4) = \sqrt{6} \times \sqrt{6} - \cancel{4\sqrt{6}} = 6 - 4\sqrt{6}$

c) $\sqrt{2}(5 + 2\sqrt{2}) = \sqrt{2} \times 5 + \sqrt{2} \times 2 \times \sqrt{2} = 5\sqrt{2} + 4$

d) $\sqrt{5}(2\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3}) = \sqrt{5} \times 2 \times \sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{3}$
 $10 + \sqrt{15}$

Two brackets $(\sqrt{2} + 1)(3 - \sqrt{2}) = \sqrt{2} \times 3 - \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} + 1 \times 3 - 1 \times \sqrt{2}$

a) $(\sqrt{3} + 1)(3 + \sqrt{3}) = \sqrt{3} \times 3 + \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} + 1 \times 3 + 1 \times \sqrt{3}$
 $= 3\sqrt{3} + 3 + 3 + \sqrt{3}$
 $= 6 + 4\sqrt{3}$

b) $(2\sqrt{5} + 1)(4 + \sqrt{5}) = 2\sqrt{5} \times 4 + 2\sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{5} + 1 \times 4 + 1 \times \sqrt{5}$
 $= 8\sqrt{5} + 10 + 4 + \sqrt{5}$
 $= 14 + 9\sqrt{5}$

c) $(\sqrt{2} - 3)(\sqrt{2} - 1) = \sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2} \times 1 - 3 \times \sqrt{2} + 3 \times 1$
 $= 2 - \sqrt{2} - 3\sqrt{2} + 3$
 $= 5 - 4\sqrt{2}$

REMEMBER

TRUE $\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{4} = \sqrt{2 \times 4} = \sqrt{8}$

$$\frac{\sqrt{4}}{\sqrt{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{4}{2}} = \sqrt{2}$$

FALSE $\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{4}$ is not $\sqrt{2 + 4}$

$\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{4}$ is not $\sqrt{2 - 4}$

(5)

Rationalising the denominator

When we rationalise the denominator of a fraction we remove the square root from the denominator, they can still be present in the numerator.

There are two situations

1) The denominator contains a single term. For example $\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$ or $\frac{5}{2\sqrt{3}}$ or $\frac{2+\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{3}}$

In each of these cases multiply the original fraction by a new fraction which has the denominator of the original fraction as its numerator and denominator.

$$\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} \text{ then multiply them out and simplify } \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

$$\frac{5}{2\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{2\sqrt{3}} = \frac{10\sqrt{3}}{4 \times 3} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{6}$$

$$\frac{2+\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}(2+\sqrt{5})}{3} = \frac{2\sqrt{3}+\sqrt{15}}{3}$$

2) The denominator contains two terms. For example $\frac{2}{1+\sqrt{3}}$ or $\frac{5}{2\sqrt{3}-1}$

In each of these cases multiply the original fraction by a new fraction which has the denominator of the original fraction WITH ITS SIGN CHANGED as its numerator and denominator. This idea is based on the difference of two squares. $(a-b)(a+b) = a^2 - b^2$ $(1-\sqrt{3})(1+\sqrt{3}) = 1^2 - (\sqrt{3})^2 = 1 - 3 = -2$

$$\frac{2}{1+\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{1-\sqrt{3}} \text{ then multiply them out and simplify } \frac{2 \times 1 - 2\sqrt{3}}{1 \times 1 - 1 \times \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{3} \times 1 - \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3}}$$

$$\text{This simplifies to make } \frac{2-2\sqrt{3}}{1-3} = \frac{2-2\sqrt{3}}{-2} = \sqrt{3} - 1$$

$$\frac{5}{2\sqrt{3}-1} \times \frac{2\sqrt{3}+1}{2\sqrt{3}+1} = \frac{10\sqrt{3}+5}{2\sqrt{3} \times 2\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{3} \times 1 - 1 \times 2\sqrt{3} - 1 \times 1} = \frac{10\sqrt{3}+5}{11}$$

Rationalise the denominator of these fractions

$$\frac{5}{\sqrt{3}-2} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}+2}{\sqrt{3}+2} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}+10}{3-4} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}+10}{-1} = -5\sqrt{3}-10$$

1) $\frac{3}{\sqrt{5}}$	2) $\frac{7}{\sqrt{2}}$	3) $\frac{5}{4\sqrt{6}}$	4) $\frac{5}{4+\sqrt{6}}$	5) $\frac{5}{\sqrt{3}-2}$	6) $\frac{\sqrt{2}-1}{\sqrt{3}+3}$
$= \frac{3}{\sqrt{5}} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}}$	$= \frac{7}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$	$= \frac{5}{4\sqrt{6}} \times \frac{4\sqrt{6}}{4\sqrt{6}}$	$= \frac{5}{4+\sqrt{6}} \times \frac{4-\sqrt{6}}{4-\sqrt{6}}$		$= \frac{\sqrt{2}-1}{\sqrt{3}+3} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}-3}{\sqrt{3}-3}$
$= \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{5}$	$= \frac{7\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$= \frac{20\sqrt{6}}{96} = \frac{5}{24}\sqrt{6}$	$= \frac{4-\sqrt{6}}{2}$		$= \frac{\sqrt{3}+3\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{6}-3}{6}$