

Questions

1. Simplify $\frac{x^2 + 3x - 10}{x^2 + x - 20} \cdot \frac{x^2 - 3x - 4}{x^2 + 4x + 3}$.
2. Simplify $\frac{x^2 - x - 20}{x^2 - 3x - 10} \cdot \frac{x^2 + 7x + 10}{x^2 + 4x - 5}$.
3. Simplify $(6x - 5) \div \frac{36x^2 - 25}{6x^2 + 17x + 10}$.
4. Simplify $\frac{4x^2 - 9}{4x^2 + 12x + 9} \div (6x - 9)$.
5. Simplify $\frac{3x^2 + 12xy + 12y^2}{x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2} \div \frac{4x + 8y}{x + y}$.
6. Simplify $\frac{5y^2 + 17y + 6}{10y^2 + 9y + 2} \cdot \frac{4y^2 - 1}{2y^2 + 5y - 3}$.
7. Simplify $\frac{x^2 + 8x + 15}{2x^2 + 11x + 5} \div \frac{x^2 + 6x + 9}{2x^2 - 7x - 4}$.

Solutions

1. Simplify $\frac{x^2 + 3x - 10}{x^2 + x - 20} \cdot \frac{x^2 - 3x - 4}{x^2 + 4x + 3}$. Factor all polynomials:

$$x^2 + 3x - 10 = (x - 2)(x + 5) \text{ two numbers whose product is } -10 \text{ sum is } 3: -2, 5$$

$$x^2 - 3x - 4 = (x - 4)(x + 1) \text{ two numbers whose product is } -4 \text{ sum is } -3: -4, 1$$

$$x^2 + x - 20 = (x + 5)(x - 4) \text{ two numbers whose product is } -20 \text{ sum is } 1: -4, 5$$

$$x^2 + 4x + 3 = (x + 3)(x + 1) \text{ two numbers whose product is } 3 \text{ sum is } 4: 1, 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^2 + 3x - 10}{x^2 + x - 20} \cdot \frac{x^2 - 3x - 4}{x^2 + 4x + 3} &= \frac{(x^2 + 3x - 10)(x^2 - 3x - 4)}{(x^2 + x - 20)(x^2 + 4x + 3)} \text{ Simplify polynomial multiplication.} \\ &= \frac{(x - 2)\cancel{(x + 5)}\cancel{(x - 4)}(x + 1)}{\cancel{(x + 5)}\cancel{(x - 4)}(x + 3)(x + 1)} \\ &= \frac{x - 2}{x + 3} \text{ and } x - 4 \neq 0, x + 1 \neq 0, x + 5 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

2. Simplify $\frac{x^2 - x - 20}{x^2 - 3x - 10} \cdot \frac{x^2 + 7x + 10}{x^2 + 4x - 5}$. Factor all polynomials:

$$x^2 - x - 20 = (x - 5)(x + 4) \text{ two numbers whose product is } -20 \text{ sum is } -1: -5, 4$$

$$x^2 - 3x - 10 = (x - 5)(x + 2) \text{ two numbers whose product is } -10 \text{ sum is } -3: -5, 2$$

$$x^2 + 7x + 10 = (x + 5)(x + 2) \text{ two numbers whose product is } 10 \text{ sum is } 7: 5, 2$$

$$x^2 + 4x - 5 = (x + 5)(x - 1) \text{ two numbers whose product is } -5 \text{ sum is } 4: 5, -1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^2 - x - 20}{x^2 - 3x - 10} \cdot \frac{x^2 + 7x + 10}{x^2 + 4x - 5} &= \frac{(x^2 - x - 20)(x^2 + 7x + 10)}{(x^2 + 7x + 10)(x^2 + 4x - 5)} \text{ Simplify polynomial multiplication.} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{(x - 5)}(x + 4)\cancel{(x + 5)}(x + 2)}{\cancel{(x - 5)}(x + 2)\cancel{(x + 5)}(x - 1)} \\ &= \frac{x + 4}{x - 1} \text{ and } x + 5 \neq 0, x - 5 \neq 0, x + 2 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

3. Simplify $(6x - 5) \div \frac{36x^2 - 25}{6x^2 + 17x + 10}$. Factor all polynomials:

$$6x^2 + 17x + 10 = 6x^2 + 12x + 5x + 10 \text{ two numbers whose product is } 60 \text{ sum is } 17: 12, 5$$

$$= 6x(x + 2) + 5(x + 2) \text{ Factor by grouping}$$

$$= (6x + 5)(x + 2)$$

$$36x^2 - 25 = (6x - 5)(6x + 5) \text{ Difference of squares}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (6x - 5) \div \frac{36x^2 - 25}{6x^2 + 17x + 10} &= (6x - 5) \cdot \frac{6x^2 + 17x + 10}{36x^2 - 25} \text{ Simplify polynomial division.} \\ &= \frac{(6x - 5)(6x^2 + 17x + 10)}{(36x^2 - 25)} \text{ Simplify polynomial multiplication.} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{(6x - 5)}\cancel{(6x + 5)}(x + 2)}{\cancel{(6x - 5)}\cancel{(6x + 5)}} \\ &= x + 2 \text{ and } 6x + 5 \neq 0, 6x - 5 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

4. Simplify $\frac{4x^2 - 9}{4x^2 + 12x + 9} \div (6x - 9)$. Factor all polynomials:

$$\begin{aligned} 4x^2 + 12x + 9 &= 4x^2 + 6x + 6x + 9 \text{ two numbers whose product is 36 sum is 12: } 6, 6 \\ &= 2x(2x + 3) + 3(2x + 3) \text{ Factor by grouping} \\ &= (2x + 3)(2x + 3) \text{ hey--this was a perfect square!} \\ 4x^2 - 9 &= (2x + 3)(2x - 3) \text{ Difference of squares} \\ 6x - 9 &= 3(2x - 3) \text{ common factor} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4x^2 - 9}{4x^2 + 12x + 9} \div (6x - 9) &= \frac{4x^2 - 9}{4x^2 + 12x + 9} \cdot \frac{1}{(6x - 9)} \text{ Simplify polynomial division.} \\ &= \frac{(4x^2 - 9)}{(4x^2 + 12x + 9)(6x - 9)} \text{ Simplify polynomial multiplication.} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{(2x - 3)}\cancel{(2x + 3)}}{(2x + 3)\cancel{(2x + 3)}3\cancel{(2x - 3)}} \\ &= \frac{1}{3(2x + 3)} \text{ and } 2x - 3 \neq 0, 2x + 3 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

5. Simplify $\frac{3x^2 + 12xy + 12y^2}{x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2} \div \frac{4x + 8y}{x + y}$. Factor all polynomials (let the y tag along with the constants):

$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 + 12xy + 12y^2 &= 3x^2 + 6xy + 6xy + 12y^2 \text{ two numbers whose product is 36 sum is 12: } 6, 6 \\ &= 3x(x + 2y) + 6y(x + 2y) \text{ Factor by grouping} \\ &= (3x + 6y)(x + 2y) = 3(x + 2y)(x + 2y) \text{ hey--this was a perfect square!} \\ x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2 &= (x + 1y)(x + 3y) = (x + y)(x + 3y) \text{ two numbers whose product is 3 sum is 4: } 1, 3 \\ 4x + 8y &= 4(x + 2y) \text{ common factor} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3x^2 + 12xy + 12y^2}{x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2} \div \frac{4x + 8y}{x + y} &= \frac{3x^2 + 12xy + 12y^2}{x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2} \cdot \frac{x + y}{4x + 8y} \text{ Simplify polynomial division.} \\ &= \frac{(3x^2 + 12xy + 12y^2)(x + y)}{(x^2 + 4xy + 3y^2)(4x + 8y)} \text{ Simplify polynomial multiplication.} \\ &= \frac{3(x + 2y)\cancel{(x + 2y)}\cancel{(x + y)}}{\cancel{(x + y)}(x + 3y)4\cancel{(x + 2y)}} \\ &= \frac{3(x + 2y)}{4(x + 3y)} \text{ and } x + 2y \neq 0, x + y \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

6. Simplify $\frac{5y^2 + 17y + 6}{10y^2 + 9y + 2} \cdot \frac{4y^2 - 1}{2y^2 + 5y - 3}$. Factor all polynomials:

$$\begin{aligned} 5y^2 + 17y + 6 &= 5y^2 + 15y + 2y + 6 \text{ two numbers whose product is 30 sum is 17: } 15, 2 \\ &= 5y(y + 3) + 2(y + 3) \text{ Factor by grouping} \\ &= (5y + 2)(y + 3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 10y^2 + 9y + 2 &= 10y^2 + 5y + 4y + 2 \text{ two numbers whose product is 20 sum is 9: } 5, 4 \\ &= 5y(2y + 1) + 2(2y + 1) \text{ Factor by grouping} \\ &= (5y + 2)(2y + 1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2y^2 + 5y - 3 &= 2y^2 + 6y - 1y - 3 \text{ two numbers whose product is } -6 \text{ sum is } 5: 6, -1 \\ &= 2y(y + 3) - 1(y + 3) \text{ Factor by grouping} \\ &= (2y - 1)(y + 3) \end{aligned}$$

$$4y^2 - 1 = (2y - 1)(2y + 1) \text{ difference of squares}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{5y^2 + 17y + 6}{10y^2 + 9y + 2} \cdot \frac{4y^2 - 1}{2y^2 + 5y - 3} &= \frac{(5y^2 + 17y + 6)(4y^2 - 1)}{(10y^2 + 9y + 2)(2y^2 + 5y - 3)} \text{ Simplify polynomial multiplication.} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{(5y + 2)}\cancel{(y + 3)}\cancel{(2y + 1)}\cancel{(2y - 1)}}{\cancel{(5y + 2)}\cancel{(2y + 1)}\cancel{(2y - 1)}\cancel{(y + 3)}} \\ &= 1 \text{ and } 5y + 2 \neq 0, y + 3 \neq 0, 2y + 1 \neq 0, 2y - 1 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

7. Simplify $\frac{x^2 + 8x + 15}{2x^2 + 11x + 5} \div \frac{x^2 + 6x + 9}{2x^2 - 7x - 4}$. Factor all polynomials:

$$x^2 + 8x + 15 = (x + 5)(x + 3) \text{ two numbers whose product is 15 sum is 8: } 5, 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2x^2 + 11x + 5 &= 2x^2 + 10x + 1x + 5 \text{ two numbers whose product is 10 sum is 11: } 10, 1 \\ &= 2x(x + 5) + 1(x + 5) \text{ Factor by grouping} \\ &= (2x + 1)(x + 5) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2x^2 - 7x - 4 &= 2x^2 - 8x + 1x - 4 \text{ two numbers whose product is } -8 \text{ sum is } -7: -8, 1 \\ &= 2x(x - 4) + 1(x - 4) \text{ Factor by grouping} \\ &= (2x + 1)(x - 4) \end{aligned}$$

$$x^2 + 6x + 9 = (x + 3)(x + 3) \text{ two numbers whose product is 9 sum is 6: } 3, 3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{x^2 + 8x + 15}{2x^2 + 11x + 5} \div \frac{x^2 + 6x + 9}{2x^2 - 7x - 4} &= \frac{x^2 + 8x + 15}{2x^2 + 11x + 5} \cdot \frac{2x^2 - 7x - 4}{x^2 + 6x + 9} \text{ Simplify polynomial division.} \\ &= \frac{(x^2 + 8x + 15)(2x^2 - 7x - 4)}{(2x^2 + 11x + 5)(x^2 + 6x + 9)} \cdot \frac{2x^2 - 7x - 4}{x^2 + 6x + 9} \text{ Simplify polynomial multiplication.} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{(x + 5)}\cancel{(x + 3)}\cancel{(2x + 1)}(x - 4)}{\cancel{(2x + 1)}\cancel{(x + 5)}\cancel{(x + 3)}(x + 3)} \\ &= \frac{x - 4}{x + 3} \text{ and } x + 5 \neq 0, x + 3 \neq 0, 2x + 1 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$