

# 03/11/20 Properties of Logarithms

Remember that logarithms are inverses of exponential functions. Just like we had exponent properties, we have properties for logarithms. You will notice they are very similar.....

**PRODUCT PROPERTY** of logarithms  

$$\log_b(mn) = \log_b m + \log_b n$$

**QUOTIENT PROPERTY** of logarithms  

$$\log_b\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) = \log_b m - \log_b n$$

**POWER PROPERTY** of logarithms  

$$\log_b(m^n) = n \cdot \log_b m$$

Here are some other properties that will help you with logarithms:

Inverse properties:

\*\*\*  $\log_b 1 = 0$   
 ex:  $\log_2 1 =$   
 $2^x = 1 \quad x=0!$

\*\*\*  $\log_b b = 1$   
 ex:  $\log_2 2 =$   
 $2^x = 2 \quad x=1$

\*\*\*  $\log_b b^n = n$   
 ex:  $\log_2 2^3 =$   
 $2^x = 2^3 \quad x=3$

\*\*\*  $b^{\log_b n} = n$

These properties can be used to expand or condense logarithmic expressions. You will see this in the following examples!!

**Expanding** expressions using the properties of logarithms:

Ex 1:  $\log_2(ab^4)^3$   
 $= \log_2(a^3 b^{12})$   
 $= \log_2 a^3 + \log_2 b^{12}$   
 $= 3\log_2 a + 12\log_2 b$

Ex 2:  $\log_5 \frac{x}{7}$   
 \* Use the quotient property  
 $\log_5 x - \log_5 7$

Ex 3:  $\log_3 \frac{x^2 \sqrt{y}}{z^5}$  - Quotient Property!  
 $\log_3 x^2 \sqrt{y} - \log_3 z^5$   
 $\log_3 x^2 + \log_3 y^{1/2} - \log_3 z^5$   
 $= 2\log_3 x + \frac{1}{2}\log_3 y - 5\log_3 z$

Ex 4:  $\log_3 \frac{81\sqrt[4]{a}}{b^2}$  - Quotient Property  
 $= \log_3 81a^{1/4} - \log_3 b^2$   
 $= \log_3 81 + \log_3 a^{1/4} - \log_3 b^2$   
 $= \log_3 3^4 + \frac{1}{4}\log_3 a - 2\log_3 b$   
 $= 4 + \frac{1}{4}\log_3 a - 2\log_3 b$

Ex 5:  $\log(1000x^3\sqrt{y^5})$  - Product Property  
 $= \log 1000 + \log x^3 + \log \sqrt{y^5}$   
 $= \log 10^3 + 3\log x + \log y^{5/2}$   
 $= 3 + 3\log x + \frac{5}{2}\log y$

Ex 6:  $\log_2(64xy)$  - Product Property!  
 $= \log_2 64 + \log_2 x + \log_2 y$   
 $= \log_2 2^6 + \log_2 x + \log_2 y$   
 $= 6 + \log_2 x + \log_2 y$

Condensing expressions using the properties of logarithms:

Ex 7:  $\log_2 14 - \log_2 7$

\* Subtraction becomes division.

$= \log_2 \frac{14}{7}$  simplify!

$= \log_2 2 = \boxed{1}$  !

Ex 8:  $6\log_7 m - \frac{3}{2}\log_7 n$

\* Power property!

$= \log_7 m^6 - \log_7 n^{3/2}$

\* Quotient property

$= \log_7 \frac{m^6}{n^{3/2}}$  rewrite!

$= \boxed{\log_7 \frac{m^6}{\sqrt{n^3}}}$

Ex 9:  $\log_4 x + 2\log_4 y$

\* Power property

$= \log_4 x + \log_4 y^2$

\* Product property

$= \boxed{\log_4 (xy^2)}$

Ex 10:  $2\log_8 x + \frac{1}{2}\log_8 (x+4)$

\* Power

$= \log_8 x^2 + \log_8 (x+4)^{1/2}$

\* Product

$= \log_8 x^2 (x+4)^{1/2}$  rewrite!

$= \boxed{\log_8 x^2 \sqrt{x+4}}$

Ex 11:  $4\log_6 (x+2) - 3\log_6 (x-5)$

\* Power property

$= \log_6 (x+2)^4 - \log_6 (x-5)^3$

\* Quotient

$= \boxed{\log_6 \frac{(x+2)^4}{(x-5)^3}}$

Ex 12:  $\log_2 5 + \log_2 x - \log_2 3$

\* Product

$= \log_2 (5x) - \log_2 3$

\* Quotient

$= \boxed{\log_2 \left(\frac{5x}{3}\right)}$

Ex 13:  $1 + 3\log_4 x$

\* power

$= 1 + \log_4 x^3$

rewrite:  $\log_b b = 1$

$= \log_4 4 + \log_4 x^3$

\* Product property!

$= \log_4 (4x^3)$

If time....

Ex 14:  $\log_4 4x^2$  Product

Expand!

$= \log_4 4 + \log_4 x^2$

$= \boxed{1 + 2\log_4 x}$

Ex 15:  $\log_3 \sqrt{x-2}$

Expand!

$= \log_3 (x-2)^{1/2}$

$= \frac{1}{2}\log_3 (x-2)$

Ex 16:  $\frac{3}{2}\log_9 x^6 - \frac{3}{4}\log_9 x^8$

Condense!!

$= \log_9 (x^6)^{3/2} - \log_9 (x^8)^{3/4}$

$= \log_9 x^9 - \log_9 x^6$

$= \log_9 \frac{x^9}{x^6} = \boxed{\log_9 x^3}$