



Algebra 1

Simplifying Rational Expressions



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Rational Expressions

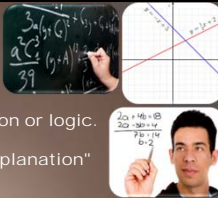
Excluded Value

Simplest Form of a Rational Expressions

Overview 






ra-tion-al
adjective



1. based on or in accordance with reason or logic.
"I'm sure there's a perfectly rational explanation"
2. MATHEMATICS: expressible as a ratio of whole numbers.



Rational Expressions

Simplifying Rational Expressions 


$$\frac{x + 3}{x - 4}$$

Rational Expressions



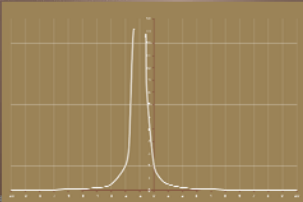
Simplifying Rational Expressions


$$\begin{aligned} x - 4 &= 0 \\ x &= 4 \end{aligned}$$
$$\frac{3}{x - 4}$$

Excluded Value

Rational Expressions

Simplifying Rational Expressions

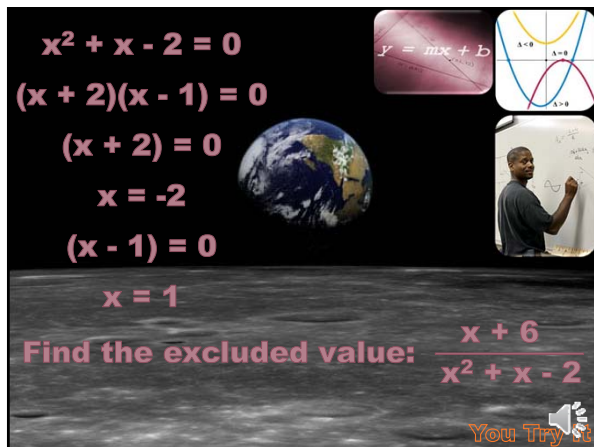

$$\frac{5}{x^2 + 2x + 1}$$
$$x^2 + 2x + 1 = 0$$
$$(x + 1)(x + 1) = 0$$
$$x = -1$$


Simplifying Rational Expressions



Find the excluded value: $\frac{x + 6}{x^2 + x - 2}$

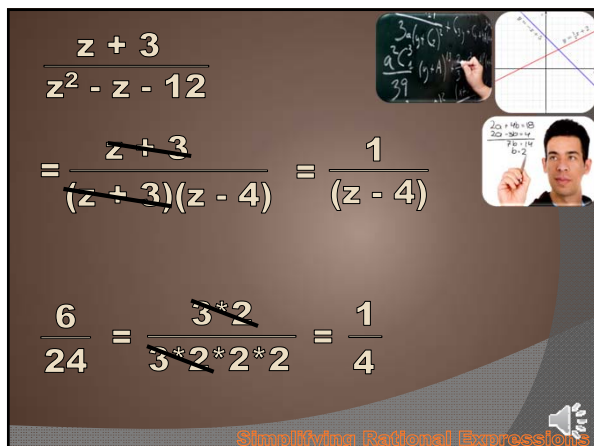
You Try It!



$x^2 + x - 2 = 0$
 $(x + 2)(x - 1) = 0$
 $(x + 2) = 0$
 $x = -2$
 $(x - 1) = 0$
 $x = 1$

Find the excluded value: $\frac{x + 6}{x^2 + x - 2}$

You Try It!



$\frac{z + 3}{z^2 - z - 12}$
 $= \frac{\cancel{z + 3}}{(\cancel{z + 3})(z - 4)} = \frac{1}{(z - 4)}$

$\frac{6}{24} = \frac{\cancel{3} * 2}{\cancel{3} * 2 * 2 * 2} = \frac{1}{4}$


Simplifying Rational Expressions

You Try It!

$$\frac{x^2 - 7x + 12}{16 - x^2}$$

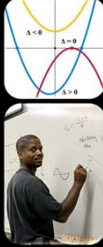
$$= \frac{(x - 3)(x - 4)}{(4 - x)(4 + x)} = \frac{(x - 3)(\cancel{x - 4})}{-(\cancel{x - 4})(4 + x)}$$

$$= \frac{(4 - x) = -1 * (x - 4)}{-(4 + x)} = -\frac{1}{x + 4}$$



Simplifying Rational Expressions

Simplify: $\frac{v + 5}{v^3 + 10v^2 + 25v}$



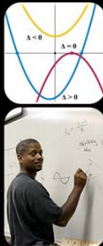
You Try It

Simplify: $\frac{v + 5}{v^3 + 10v^2 + 25v}$

$$= \frac{v + 5}{v(v^2 + 10v + 25)}$$

$$= \frac{v + 5}{v(v + 5)^2} = \frac{1}{v(v + 5)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{v^2 + 5v}$$



You Try It
