

Rationalizing the Denominator: Higher Root

When rationalizing a denominator containing a term that has a root higher than 2, multiply the numerator and the denominator by the value needed to form a perfect cube, 4th, 5th, etc. of the denominator.

$$\frac{7}{\sqrt[3]{x}} \text{ has a cube root. Therefore, 3 factors of } x \text{ are needed in the radicand. } \frac{7}{\sqrt[3]{x}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[3]{x^2}}{\sqrt[3]{x^2}} = \frac{7\sqrt[3]{x^2}}{\sqrt[3]{x^3}} = \frac{7\sqrt[3]{x^2}}{x}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{4a^2}} \text{ Cannot be simplified, so split it. } \frac{\sqrt[3]{3}}{\sqrt[3]{4a^2}} \text{ Need 3 factors of 2 and 1 factor of } a \text{ in the radicand.}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt[3]{3}}{\sqrt[3]{4a^2}} = \frac{\sqrt[3]{3}}{\sqrt[3]{4a^2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[3]{2a}}{\sqrt[3]{2a}} = \frac{\sqrt[3]{6a}}{\sqrt[3]{8a^3}} = \frac{\sqrt[3]{6a}}{2a}$$

$$\sqrt[5]{\frac{3}{x^2y}} = \frac{\sqrt[5]{3}}{\sqrt[5]{x^2y}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt[5]{x^3y^4}}{\sqrt[5]{x^3y^4}} = \frac{\sqrt[5]{3x^3y^4}}{\sqrt[5]{x^5y^5}} = \frac{\sqrt[5]{3x^3y^4}}{xy}$$

TRY:

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{5}}$$

$$\sqrt[4]{\frac{2}{27x^2}}$$

$$\frac{9}{\sqrt[5]{a^3b^4}}$$

$$\sqrt[3]{\frac{4a}{b}}$$