

Law 1) For any positive numbers x and y , where a is any positive integer where $a \neq 1$

$$\log_a (x \cdot y) = \log_a x + \log_a y$$

Ex 1) Express as a sum of logarithms. Simplify, if possible.

$$\log_3 (9 \cdot 27) \rightarrow \log_3 9 + \log_3 27 \rightarrow 2 + 3 \rightarrow \textcircled{5}$$

Ex 2) Express as a single logarithm.

$$\log_5 20 + \log_5 3 \rightarrow \log_5 (20 \cdot 3) \rightarrow \textcircled{\log_5 60}$$

Law 2) For any positive number x , any number p , and any logarithm base a ,

$$\log_a x^p = p \cdot \log_a x$$

Express the following as a product:

$$\underline{\text{EX 3}} \quad \log_b 9^{-5} = -5 \cdot \log_b 9$$

$$\underline{\text{EX 4}} \quad \log_a \sqrt[4]{5} = \log_a 5^{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \log_a 5$$

Law 3) For any positive numbers x , y and any logarithm base a ,

$$\log_a \frac{x}{y} = \log_a x - \log_a y$$

EX 4¹) Rewrite $\log_3 \frac{19}{5}$ as the difference of two logs.

$$\log_3 \frac{19}{5} = \log_3 19 - \log_3 5$$

Ex 5) Express in terms of logarithms of x, y and z.

$$\log_a \sqrt[4]{\frac{xy}{z^3}} \rightarrow \log_a \left(\frac{xy}{z^3} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \cdot \log_a \left(\frac{xy}{z^3} \right) \rightarrow \frac{1}{4} \left[\log_a(xy) - \log_a z^3 \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \left[\log_a x + \log_a y - 3 \cdot \log_a z \right]$$

$$\frac{1}{4} \log_a x + \frac{1}{4} \log_a y - \frac{3}{4} \log_a z$$

Ex 6) Express as a single logarithm:

$$\frac{1}{2} \log_a x - 7 \log_a y + \log_a z$$

$$\log_a x^{\frac{1}{2}} - \log_a y^7 + \log_a z$$

$$\log_a \sqrt{x} - \log_a y^7 + \log_a z$$

$$\log_a \left(\frac{\sqrt{x}}{y^7} \right) + \log_a z$$

$$\log_a \left(\frac{\sqrt{x} z}{y^7} \right)$$

EX7 Given that $\log_a 2 \approx 0.301$, $\log_a 3 \approx 0.477$

$$7a) \log_a 6 = \log_a (2 \cdot 3)$$

$$= \log_a 2 + \log_a 3$$

$$= 0.301 + 0.477$$

$$= 0.778$$

$$\begin{aligned} 7b) \log_a \sqrt{3} &= \log_a 3^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \log_a 3 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (0.477) \\ &\approx 0.2385 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 7c) \log_a \frac{2}{3} &= \log_a 2 - \log_a 3 \\ &\approx 0.301 - 0.477 \\ &\approx -0.176 \end{aligned}$$

$$7d) \log_a 5 \rightarrow \text{can't do}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 7e) \frac{\log_a 2}{\log_a 3} &= \frac{0.301}{0.477} \\ &\approx 0.63 \end{aligned}$$