

# Step-by-step solutions

## Bridging Unit: Algebra 1

**Try it 1A**

**1a**  $5x^3 \times 2x^7 = 5 \times 2 \times x^{3+7}$

$$= 10x^{10}$$

**1b**  $18x^9 \div 3x^2 = \frac{18x^9}{3x^2}$

$$= \frac{18}{3}x^{9-2}$$

$$= 6x^7$$

**1c**  $(2x^6)^4 = 2^4 \times x^{6 \times 4}$

$$= 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times x^{6 \times 4}$$

$$= 16x^{24}$$

**1d**  $\left(\frac{x^3}{3}\right)^2 = \frac{x^{3 \times 2}}{3^2}$

$$= \frac{x^6}{9}$$

**2a**  $36^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{36}$

$$= 6$$

**2b**  $27^{\frac{2}{3}} = \left(27^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)^2$

$$= \left(\sqrt[3]{27}\right)^2$$

$$= 3^2$$

$$= 9$$

**2c**  $64^{-0.5} = (64^{-1})^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$$= \frac{1}{64^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{64}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{8}$$

**2d**  $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^4 = \frac{1}{2^4}$

$$= \frac{1}{2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{16}$$

**3a**  $\sqrt[5]{x^2} = (x^2)^{\frac{1}{5}}$

$$= x^{\frac{2}{5}}$$

**3b**  $\frac{3}{\sqrt{x}} = \frac{3}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$

$$= 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

**3c**  $\frac{3x^2}{\sqrt{x}} = 3 \times \frac{x^2}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$

$$= 3 \times x^2 x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= 3 \times x^{2-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= 3x^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

**3d**  $\frac{\sqrt{x}}{3x} = \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{3x}$

$$= \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{3} x^{-1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} x^{\frac{1}{2}-1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

**4a**  $\sqrt{28} = \sqrt{4} \sqrt{7}$

$$= 2\sqrt{7}$$

so  $3\sqrt{28} = 6\sqrt{7}$

So  $3\sqrt{28} - \sqrt{7} = 6\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{7}$

$$= 5\sqrt{7}$$

**4b**  $\frac{4}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3}}$

$$= \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

**4c**  $\frac{3}{1+\sqrt{2}} = \frac{3(1-\sqrt{2})}{(1+\sqrt{2})(1-\sqrt{2})}$

$$= \frac{3(1-\sqrt{2})}{1-\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{2}-2}$$

$$= \frac{3(1-\sqrt{2})}{-1}$$

$$= -3 + 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4d} \quad & \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}-2} = \frac{\sqrt{5}(\sqrt{5}+2)}{(\sqrt{5}-2)(\sqrt{5}+2)} \\ &= \frac{5+2\sqrt{5}}{5+2\sqrt{5}-2\sqrt{5}-4} \\ &= \frac{5+2\sqrt{5}}{5-4} \\ &= 5+2\sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

### Bridging Exercise 1A

$$\mathbf{1a} \quad 49^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{49}$$

$$= 7$$

$$\mathbf{1b} \quad 27^{\frac{1}{3}} = \sqrt[3]{27}$$

$$= 3$$

$$\mathbf{1c} \quad 5^{-1} = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$\mathbf{1d} \quad 64^{-\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{1}{64^{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt[3]{64}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\mathbf{1e} \quad 9^{\frac{3}{2}} = \left(9^{\frac{1}{2}}\right)^3$$

$$= (\sqrt{9})^3$$

$$= 3^3$$

$$= 27$$

$$\mathbf{1f} \quad 16^{\frac{3}{4}} = \left(16^{\frac{1}{4}}\right)^3$$

$$= (\sqrt[4]{16})^3$$

$$= 2^3$$

$$= 8$$

$$\mathbf{1g} \quad 125^{-\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{1}{\left(125^{\frac{1}{3}}\right)^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{(\sqrt[3]{125})^2}$$

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

$$= \frac{1}{25}$$

$$\mathbf{1h} \quad \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^3 = \frac{1^3}{2^3}$$

$$= \frac{1}{8}$$

$$\mathbf{1i} \quad \left(\frac{1}{9}\right)^{-2} = 9^2$$

$$= 81$$

$$\mathbf{1j} \quad \left(\frac{4}{9}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{4^{\frac{1}{2}}}{9^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{4}}{\sqrt{9}}$$

$$= \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\mathbf{1k} \quad \left(\frac{9}{16}\right)^{-0.5} = \left(\frac{16}{9}\right)^{0.5}$$

$$= \frac{16^{0.5}}{9^{0.5}}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{16}}{\sqrt{9}}$$

$$= \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\mathbf{1l} \quad \left(\frac{27}{8}\right)^{-\frac{2}{3}} = \left(\frac{8}{27}\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$= \left(\sqrt[3]{\frac{8}{27}}\right)^2$$

$$= \left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{8}}{\sqrt[3]{27}}\right)^2$$

$$= \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2$$

$$= \frac{2^2}{3^2}$$

$$= \frac{4}{9}$$

$$\mathbf{2a} \quad \sqrt{8} = \sqrt{4}\sqrt{2}$$

$$= 2\sqrt{2}$$

$$\mathbf{2b} \quad \sqrt{75} = \sqrt{25}\sqrt{3}$$

$$= 5\sqrt{3}$$

$$\mathbf{2c} \quad 2\sqrt{24} = 2\sqrt{4}\sqrt{6}$$

$$= 2 \times 2\sqrt{6}$$

$$= 4\sqrt{6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2d} \quad 3\sqrt{48} &= 3\sqrt{16}\sqrt{3} \\ &= 3 \times 4\sqrt{3} \\ &= 12\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2e} \quad \sqrt{20} + \sqrt{5} &= \sqrt{4}\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5} \\ &= 2\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5} \\ &= 3\sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2f} \quad \sqrt{27} - \sqrt{12} &= \sqrt{9}\sqrt{3} - \sqrt{4}\sqrt{3} \\ &= 3\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{3} \\ &= \sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2g} \quad 5\sqrt{32} - 3\sqrt{8} &= 5\sqrt{16}\sqrt{2} - 3\sqrt{4}\sqrt{2} \\ &= 5 \times 4\sqrt{2} - 3 \times 2\sqrt{2} \\ &= 20\sqrt{2} - 6\sqrt{2} \\ &= 14\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2h} \quad \sqrt{50} + 3\sqrt{125} &= \sqrt{25}\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{25}\sqrt{5} \\ &= 5\sqrt{2} + 15\sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2i} \quad \sqrt{68} + 3\sqrt{17} &= \sqrt{4}\sqrt{17} + 3\sqrt{17} \\ &= 2\sqrt{17} + 3\sqrt{17} \\ &= 5\sqrt{17} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2j} \quad 3\sqrt{72} - \sqrt{32} &= 3\sqrt{36}\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{16}\sqrt{2} \\ &= 3 \times 6\sqrt{2} - 4\sqrt{2} \\ &= 18\sqrt{2} - 4\sqrt{2} \\ &= 14\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2k} \quad 4\sqrt{18} - 2\sqrt{3} &= 4\sqrt{9}\sqrt{2} - 2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 4 \times 3\sqrt{2} - 2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 12\sqrt{2} - 2\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{2l} \quad 6\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{50} &= 6\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{25}\sqrt{2} \\ &= 6\sqrt{5} + 5\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3a} \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} &= \frac{\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{7}\sqrt{7}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{7}}{7} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3b} \quad \frac{2}{\sqrt{8}} &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{4}\sqrt{2}} \\ &= \frac{2}{2\sqrt{2}} \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2\sqrt{2}\sqrt{2}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3c} \quad \frac{12}{\sqrt{3}} &= \frac{12\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3}} \\ &= \frac{12\sqrt{3}}{3} \\ &= 4\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3d} \quad \frac{\sqrt{8}}{\sqrt{12}} &= \frac{\sqrt{4}\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{4}\sqrt{3}} \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{2\sqrt{3}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}\sqrt{3}} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{6}}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3e} \quad \frac{1}{1+\sqrt{3}} &= \frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{(1+\sqrt{3})(1-\sqrt{3})} \\ &= \frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{1-\sqrt{3}+\sqrt{3}-3} \\ &= \frac{1-\sqrt{3}}{-2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{3}-1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3f} \quad \frac{2}{1+\sqrt{2}} &= \frac{2(1-\sqrt{2})}{(1+\sqrt{2})(1-\sqrt{2})} \\ &= \frac{2(1-\sqrt{2})}{1-\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{2}-2} \\ &= \frac{2(1-\sqrt{2})}{-1} \\ &= -2(1-\sqrt{2}) \\ &= 2(\sqrt{2}-1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3g} \quad \frac{8}{1-\sqrt{5}} &= \frac{8(1+\sqrt{5})}{(1-\sqrt{5})(1+\sqrt{5})} \\ &= \frac{8(1+\sqrt{5})}{1+\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{5}-5} \\ &= \frac{8(1+\sqrt{5})}{-4} \\ &= -2(1+\sqrt{5}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3h} \quad & \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}-1} = \frac{2(\sqrt{5}+1)}{(\sqrt{5}-1)(\sqrt{5}+1)} \\ &= \frac{2(\sqrt{5}+1)}{5+\sqrt{5}-\sqrt{5}-1} \\ &= \frac{2(\sqrt{5}+1)}{4} \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{5}+1) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3i} \quad & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2+\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}(2-\sqrt{3})}{(2+\sqrt{3})(2-\sqrt{3})} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}(2-\sqrt{3})}{4-2\sqrt{3}+2\sqrt{3}-3} \\ &= \frac{\sqrt{2}(2-\sqrt{3})}{1} \\ &= 2\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3j} \quad & \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{6}-2} = \frac{2\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{6}+2)}{(\sqrt{6}-2)(\sqrt{6}+2)} \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{6}+2)}{6+2\sqrt{6}-2\sqrt{6}-4} \\ &= \frac{2\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{6}+2)}{2} \\ &= \sqrt{3}(\sqrt{6}+2) \\ &= \sqrt{18}+2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 3\sqrt{2}+2\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3k} \quad & \frac{1+\sqrt{2}}{1-\sqrt{2}} = \frac{(1+\sqrt{2})(1+\sqrt{2})}{(1-\sqrt{2})(1+\sqrt{2})} \\ &= \frac{1+\sqrt{2}+\sqrt{2}+2}{1+\sqrt{2}-\sqrt{2}-2} \\ &= \frac{3+2\sqrt{2}}{-1} \\ &= -3-2\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{3l} \quad & \frac{3+\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}-3} = \frac{(3+\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{5}+3)}{(\sqrt{5}-3)(\sqrt{5}+3)} \\ &= \frac{3\sqrt{5}+9+5+3\sqrt{5}}{5+3\sqrt{5}-3\sqrt{5}-9} \\ &= \frac{6\sqrt{5}+14}{-4} \\ &= -\frac{3}{2}\sqrt{5}-\frac{7}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4a} \quad & (1+\sqrt{2})(3+\sqrt{2}) = 3+\sqrt{2}+3\sqrt{2}+2 \\ &= 5+4\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4b} \quad & (1+\sqrt{2})(3-\sqrt{2}) = 3-\sqrt{2}+3\sqrt{2}-2 \\ &= 1+2\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4c} \quad & (1-\sqrt{2})(3+\sqrt{2}) = 3+\sqrt{2}-3\sqrt{2}-2 \\ &= 1-2\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4d} \quad & (1-\sqrt{2})(3-\sqrt{2}) = 3-\sqrt{2}-3\sqrt{2}+2 \\ &= 5-4\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4e} \quad & (\sqrt{3}+2)(4+\sqrt{3}) = 4\sqrt{3}+3+8+2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 6\sqrt{3}+11 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4f} \quad & (\sqrt{3}+2)(4-\sqrt{3}) = 4\sqrt{3}-3+8-2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 2\sqrt{3}+5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4g} \quad & (\sqrt{3}-2)(4+\sqrt{3}) = 4\sqrt{3}+3-8-2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 2\sqrt{3}-5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4h} \quad & (\sqrt{3}-2)(4-\sqrt{3}) = 4\sqrt{3}-3-8+2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 6\sqrt{3}-11 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4i} \quad & (\sqrt{6}+1)(\sqrt{2}+3) = \sqrt{12}+3\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}+3 \\ &= 2\sqrt{3}+3\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}+3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4j} \quad & (\sqrt{6}+1)(\sqrt{2}-3) = \sqrt{12}-3\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}-3 \\ &= 2\sqrt{3}-3\sqrt{6}+\sqrt{2}-3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4k} \quad & (\sqrt{6}-1)(\sqrt{2}+3) = \sqrt{12}+3\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}-3 \\ &= 2\sqrt{3}+3\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}-3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4l} \quad & (\sqrt{6}-1)(\sqrt{2}-3) = \sqrt{12}-3\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}+3 \\ &= 2\sqrt{3}-3\sqrt{6}-\sqrt{2}+3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{5a} \quad x^3 \times x^7 = x^{3+7}$$

$$= x^{10}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5b} \quad 7x^5 \times 3x^6 &= 7 \times 3 \times x^{5+6} \\ &= 21x^{11} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5c} \quad 5x^4 \times 8x^7 &= 5 \times 8 \times x^{4+7} \\ &= 40x^{11} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5d} \quad x^8 \div x^2 &= x^{8-2} \\ &= x^6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5e} \quad 8x^7 \div 2x^9 &= \frac{8}{2} \times x^{7-9} \\ &= 4x^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5f} \quad 3x^8 \div 12x^7 &= \frac{3}{12} \times x^{8-7} \\ &= \frac{1}{4}x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5g} \quad (x^5)^7 &= x^{5 \times 7} \\ &= x^{35} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{5h} \quad (x^2)^{-5} &= x^{2 \times (-5)} \\ &= x^{-10} \end{aligned}$$

**5i**  $(3x^2)^4 = 3^4 \times x^{2 \times 4}$   
 $= 81x^8$

**5j**  $(6x^5)^2 = 6^2 \times x^{5 \times 2}$   
 $= 36x^{10}$

**5k**  $\sqrt{x^3} = (x^3)^{\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $= x^{\frac{3}{2}}$

**5l**  $\sqrt[4]{x^5} = (x^5)^{\frac{1}{4}}$   
 $= x^{\frac{5}{4}}$

**5m**  $\frac{5\sqrt{x}}{x} = \frac{5x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^1}$   
 $= 5 \times x^{\frac{1}{2}} x^{-1}$   
 $= 5 \times x^{\frac{1}{2}-1}$   
 $= 5x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

**5n**  $2x\sqrt{x} = 2 \times x^1 \times x^{\frac{1}{2}}$

$$= 2 \times x^{1+\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= 2x^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

**5o**  $\frac{x^2}{3\sqrt{x}} = \frac{x^3}{3x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$   
 $= \frac{1}{3} \times x^{3-\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $= \frac{1}{3}x^{\frac{5}{2}}$

**5p**  $x^3(x^5 - 1) = x^{3+5} - x^3$   
 $= x^8 - x^3$

**5q**  $x^3(\sqrt{x} + 2) = x^3(x^{\frac{1}{2}} + 2)$   
 $= x^{3+\frac{1}{2}} + 2x^3$   
 $= x^{\frac{7}{2}} + 2x^3$

**5r**  $\frac{x+2}{x^3} = \frac{x}{x^3} + \frac{2}{x^3}$   
 $= x^{1-3} + 2x^{-3}$   
 $= x^{-2} + 2x^{-3}$

**5s**  $\frac{\sqrt{x}+3}{x} = \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}+3}{x^1}$   
 $= \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^1} + \frac{3}{x^1}$   
 $= x^{\frac{1}{2}-1} + 3x^{-1}$   
 $= x^{-\frac{1}{2}} + 3x^{-1}$

**5t**  $\frac{3-x^3}{\sqrt{x}} = \frac{3-x^3}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$   
 $= \frac{3}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{x^3}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$   
 $= 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - x^{3-\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $= 3x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - x^{\frac{5}{2}}$

**5u**  $(\sqrt{x}+3)^2 = x+3\sqrt{x}+3\sqrt{x}+9$   
 $= x+6\sqrt{x}+9$

**5v**  $\frac{3+\sqrt{x}}{x^2} = \frac{3}{x^2} + \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^2}$   
 $= 3x^{-2} + x^{\frac{1}{2}-2}$   
 $= 3x^{-2} + x^{-\frac{3}{2}}$

**5w**  $\frac{1-x}{2\sqrt{x}} = \frac{1}{2x^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{x}{2x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$   
 $= \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} - \frac{1}{2} \times x^{1-\frac{1}{2}}$   
 $= \frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}}$

**5x**  $\frac{\sqrt{x}+2}{3x^3} = \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{3x^3} + \frac{2}{3x^3}$   
 $= \frac{1}{3} \times x^{\frac{1}{2}-3} + \frac{2}{3} \times x^{-3}$   
 $= \frac{1}{3}x^{-\frac{5}{2}} + \frac{2}{3}x^{-3}$

### Try it 1B

**1**  $3x+8=5x-6$   
 $8=2x-6 \Rightarrow 2x=14$   
 $\Rightarrow x=7$

**2**  $7x-4>x+8$   
 $6x-4>8 \Rightarrow 6x>12$   
 $\Rightarrow x>2$