

1.5 RATIONAL EXPRESSION involving polynomials.

(fractional)

- look for common factors in both numerator & denominator
- cancel out the factors that simplifies to one.

examples

$$(1) \frac{15x^2}{10x} = \frac{\cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot x \cdot x}{2 \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot x} = \frac{3x}{2}$$

$$(2) \frac{18y^2}{60y^3} = \frac{\cancel{2} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot y \cdot y}{\cancel{2} \cdot 2 \cdot \cancel{3} \cdot \cancel{5} \cdot y \cdot y \cdot y} = \frac{3}{10y}$$

$$(3) \frac{2x^2y}{xy-y} = \frac{2 \cdot x \cdot x \cdot y}{(x-1) \cdot y} = \frac{2x^2}{x-1}$$

$$(4) \frac{9x^2+9x}{2x+2} = \frac{9x(x+1)}{2(x+1)} = \frac{9x}{2}$$

g.
there has to be something in common top and bottom.

if there is none, go back and check if you did every correctly.

$$(5) \frac{x-5}{10-2x} = \frac{x-5}{2(5-x)} = \frac{-1}{2} \text{ or } \frac{1}{-2} = -\frac{1}{2}$$

★ $(x-5)$ and $(5-x)$ are not the same, but they are opposites of each other, $(x-5) + (5-x) = 0$.

$\frac{a-b}{b-a} = -1$
ALWAYS

★ A number divided by its opposite equals -1 .

So I can cancel opposites if I leave behind a factor of -

$$(6) \frac{12-4x}{x-3} = \frac{4(3-x)}{x-3} = -4$$

and check w/ calculator

★ if you're not certain if something are opposites, pick a number and substitute

$$(7) \frac{y^2 - 16}{y + 4} = \frac{(y+4)(y-4)}{(y+4)} = y - 4.$$

$$(8) \frac{x^2 + 8x - 20}{x^2 + 11x + 10} = \frac{(x+10)(x-2)}{(x+10)(x+1)} = \frac{x-2}{x+1}$$

-X! you can only cancel factors, factor are things that multiply. You **cannot** cancel terms, terms are things that are added/subtracted.

$$(9) \frac{x^2 + 2x - 15}{x^2 - 9} = \frac{(x+5)(x-3)}{(x+3)(x-3)} = \frac{x+5}{x+3}$$

$$\frac{a/c}{a/b} = \frac{c}{b}$$

is in simplest form.

$$(10) \frac{x^2 + 10x + 24}{x^2 - 16} = \frac{(x+4)(x+6)}{(x+4)(x-4)} = \frac{x+6}{x-4}$$

$$(11) \frac{25 - x^2}{x^2 + 12x + 35} = \frac{(5+x)(5-x)}{(x+5)(x+7)} = \frac{(x+5)(5-x)}{(x+5)(x+7)} = \frac{5-x}{x+7}$$

$$(12) \frac{x^2 + 15x + 50}{x^2 + 3x - 70} = \frac{(x+10)(x+5)}{(x+10)(x-7)} = \frac{x+5}{x-7}$$