

Use the distributive property.

Questions

1. Simplify $(3\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5})(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{5})$.
2. Simplify $(\sqrt{7} + 4\sqrt{5x})(2\sqrt{7} + 3\sqrt{5x})$.
3. Simplify $(3\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{5})$.
4. Simplify $\sqrt{\frac{49}{25}}$.
5. Simplify $\sqrt{\frac{16}{36}}$.
6. Simplify $\sqrt{\frac{12x}{49y^6}}$.
7. Rationalize denominator in $\frac{3x}{\sqrt{10} - \sqrt{2}}$.
8. Rationalize denominator in $\frac{\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3}}$.
9. Rationalize numerator in $\frac{\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3}}$.
10. Rationalize denominator in $\frac{\sqrt{3x} - 2\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{3x} + \sqrt{y}}$.
11. Rationalize numerator in $\frac{\sqrt{3x} - 2\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{3x} + \sqrt{y}}$.
12. Rationalize numerator in $\frac{\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{7}}{8}$.

Solutions

1. Distribute, Distribute, Distribute!

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5})(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{5}) &= (3\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{5}) + (\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{5}) \\
 &= (3\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{3}) - (3\sqrt{3})(2\sqrt{5}) + (\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{3}) - (\sqrt{5})(2\sqrt{5}) \\
 &= 3(\sqrt{3})^2 - 6\sqrt{3}\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{5}\sqrt{3} - 2(\sqrt{5})^2 \\
 &= 3(3) - 6\sqrt{3 \cdot 5} + \sqrt{5 \cdot 3} - 2(5) \\
 &= -1 - 5\sqrt{15}
 \end{aligned}$$

2.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\sqrt{7} + 4\sqrt{5x})(2\sqrt{7} + 3\sqrt{5x}) &= (\sqrt{7})(2\sqrt{7} + 3\sqrt{5x}) + (4\sqrt{5x})(2\sqrt{7} + 3\sqrt{5x}) \\
 &= (\sqrt{7})(2\sqrt{7}) + (\sqrt{7})(3\sqrt{5x}) + (4\sqrt{5x})(2\sqrt{7}) + (4\sqrt{5x})(3\sqrt{5x}) \\
 &= 2(7) + 3\sqrt{7 \cdot 5x} + 8\sqrt{5x \cdot 7} + 12(5x) \\
 &= 14 + 11\sqrt{35x} + 60x
 \end{aligned}$$

3.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{5}) &= (3\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{5}) + (\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{5}) \\
 &= (3\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{2}) + (3\sqrt{5})(2\sqrt{5}) + (\sqrt{3})(\sqrt{2}) + (\sqrt{3})(2\sqrt{5}) \\
 &= 3\sqrt{5 \cdot 2} + (6)(5) + \sqrt{3 \cdot 2} + 2\sqrt{3 \cdot 5} \\
 &= 3\sqrt{10} + 30 + \sqrt{6} + 2\sqrt{15}
 \end{aligned}$$

4. $\sqrt{\frac{49}{25}} = \frac{7}{5}$.

5. $\sqrt{\frac{16}{36}} = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$.

6. $\sqrt{\frac{12x}{49y^6}} = \sqrt{\frac{2^2 \cdot 3x}{(7y^3)^2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2^2} \cdot \sqrt{3x}}{\sqrt{(7y^3)^2}} = \frac{2\sqrt{3x}}{7y^3}$.

7. Note the sign change when you rationalize! This is so the cross terms will cancel when you distribute.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{3x}{\sqrt{10} - \sqrt{2}} &= \frac{(3x)(\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{2})}{(\sqrt{10} - \sqrt{2})(\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{2})} \\
 &= \frac{3x(\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{2})}{10 - 2} \\
 &= \frac{3x(\sqrt{10} + \sqrt{2})}{8}
 \end{aligned}$$

8.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3}} &= \frac{(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})}{(\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})} \\
 &= \frac{5 + 2\sqrt{15} + 3}{5 - 3} \\
 &= \frac{8 + 2\sqrt{15}}{2} \\
 &= 4 + \sqrt{15}
 \end{aligned}$$

9.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3}} &= \frac{(\sqrt{5} + \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3})}{(\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3})(\sqrt{5} - \sqrt{3})} \\ &= \frac{5 - 3}{5 - 2\sqrt{15} + 3} \\ &= \frac{2}{8 - 2\sqrt{15}} \\ &= \frac{1}{4 - \sqrt{15}}\end{aligned}$$

10.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt{3x} - 2\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{3x} + \sqrt{y}} &= \frac{(\sqrt{3x} - 2\sqrt{y})(\sqrt{3x} - \sqrt{y})}{(\sqrt{3x} + \sqrt{y})(\sqrt{3x} - \sqrt{y})} \\ &= \frac{3x - 2\sqrt{3x}\sqrt{y} - \sqrt{3x}\sqrt{y} + 2(y)}{3x - y} \\ &= \frac{3x - 3\sqrt{3xy} + 2y}{3x - y}\end{aligned}$$

11.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt{3x} - 2\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{3x} + \sqrt{y}} &= \frac{(\sqrt{3x} - 2\sqrt{y})(\sqrt{3x} + 2\sqrt{y})}{(\sqrt{3x} + \sqrt{y})(\sqrt{3x} + 2\sqrt{y})} \\ &= \frac{3x - 4y}{3x + 2\sqrt{3x}\sqrt{y} + \sqrt{3x}\sqrt{y} + 2y} \\ &= \frac{3x - 4y}{3x + 3\sqrt{3xy} + 2y}\end{aligned}$$

12.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{7}}{8} &= \frac{(\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{7})(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{7})}{8(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{7})} \\ &= \frac{3 - 4(7)}{8(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{7})} \\ &= \frac{-25}{8(\sqrt{3} - 2\sqrt{7})}\end{aligned}$$