

# Adding & Subtracting Rational Expressions

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11:33 AM

PRE-CALCULUS 11  
RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS  
ADDING & SUBTRACTING RATIONAL EXPRESSIONS

A. Adding & Subtracting Fractions

1) Simplify the following.

a)  $\frac{1}{5} + \frac{3}{5}$

$$= \frac{4}{5}$$

b)  $\frac{1}{6} - \frac{7}{9}$

$$\frac{3}{18} - \frac{14}{18}$$
$$= \frac{-11}{18}$$

B. Adding and Subtracting Rational Expressions

1) State the non-permissible values and simplify each expression.

a)  $\frac{5}{3x^2} + \frac{x}{2 \cdot 3x^2}$   $x \neq 0$

$$\frac{10}{6x^2} + \frac{3x^3}{6x^2}$$
$$= \frac{3x^3 + 10}{6x^2}$$

b)  $\frac{1}{6xy} - \frac{2}{15x^2y}$   $x \neq 0, y \neq 0$

$$\frac{5x}{30x^2y} - \frac{4y}{30x^2y}$$
$$= \frac{5x - 4y}{30x^2y}$$

$$c) \frac{3(x-2)^2(x+6)}{4x^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 6x \cdot 2x} \quad x \neq 0$$

$$\frac{3x-6}{12x^2} + \frac{2x^2+12x}{12x^2}$$

$$= \frac{2x^2 + 15x - 6}{12x^2}$$

$$d) \frac{2a+1}{2a^2b} + \frac{b-3}{9ab^2} \quad a \neq 0, b \neq 0$$

$$\frac{9b(2a+1)}{2a^2b \cdot 9b} + \frac{2a(b-3)}{9ab^2 \cdot 2a}$$

$$\frac{18ab + 9b}{18a^2b^2} + \frac{-2ab + 6a}{18a^2b^2}$$

$$\frac{6a + 16ab + 9b}{18a^2b^2}$$

$$e) \frac{4}{3a^3} + \frac{a^2}{6a^2 \cdot 3} - \frac{5 \cdot 3a^2}{2a \cdot 3a^2} \quad a \neq 0$$

$$\frac{8}{6a^3} + \frac{a^2}{6a^3} - \frac{15a^2}{6a^3}$$

$$\frac{-14a^2 + 8}{6a^3}$$

$$\frac{2(-7a^2 + 4)}{6a^3}$$

$$= \frac{-7a^2 + 4}{3a^3}$$

$$f) \frac{w+3}{4w^2} + \frac{w-1}{3w} + \frac{w+2}{6} \quad w \neq 0$$

$$\frac{3(w+3)}{4w^2 \cdot 3} + \frac{4w(w-1)}{3w \cdot 4w} + \frac{2w^2(w+2)}{6 \cdot 2w^2}$$

$$\frac{3w+9}{4w^2} + \frac{-4w^2+4w}{4w^2} + \frac{2w^3+4w^2}{12w^2}$$

$$= \frac{2w^3 + 7w + 9}{12w^2}$$

Assignment: Pg. 553 #3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11