

# (EXPONENT)<sup>RULES</sup>

## Multiplying Powers

To multiply powers with the same base, keep the base the same and **add** the exponents.

$$a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$$

1. Evaluate.

a)  $3^4 \times 3^5$       b)  $7^{-2} \times 7^4$       c)  $2^3 \times 2^{-1}$

## Dividing Powers

To divide powers with the same base, keep the base the same and **subtract** the exponents.

$$a^m \div a^n = a^{m-n}$$

2. Evaluate.

a)  $4^6 \div 4^5$       b)  $6^{-3} \div 6^{-5}$       c)  $3^3 \div 3^{-1}$

## Power of a Power

To simplify a power of a power, keep the base the same and **multiply** the exponents

$$(a^m)^n = a^{m \times n}$$

3. Evaluate.

a)  $(3^4)^3$       b)  $(5^2)^2$       c)  $(2^5)^4$

## Zero Exponents

Any base raised to an exponent of zero equals **1**.

$$a^0 = 1$$

4. Evaluate.

a)  $6^0$       b)  $2^2 \times 2^{-2}$       c)  $4^{-3} \div 4^{-3}$

## Negative Exponents

Any base raised to a negative exponent is equal to the **reciprocal** of the base raised to a positive exponent.

$$a^{-m} = \frac{1}{a^m} \qquad \frac{1}{a^{-m}} = a^m$$

5. Evaluate.

a)  $8^{-3}$       b)  $2^3 \div 2^5$       c)  $3^{-4}$

## Simplifying Expressions

Simplify.

a)  $4^3 \times 4^4 \times 4^{-2}$       b)  $(2^3 \times 2^2) \div 2^7$

c)  $(5^2 \times 5^4)^6$       d)  $(2^6 \div 2^8)^3$

e)  $(3^7 \div 3^3) \div 3^4$       f)  $-538^0$