Algebra Cheat Sheet

Basic Properties & Facts

Arithmetic Operations

$ab+ac=a(b+c)$ $\qquad a\left(\frac{b}{c}\right)=\frac{ab}{c}$

$\frac{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)}{c}=\frac{a}{bc}$ $\qquad \frac{a}{\left(\frac{b}{c}\right)}=\frac{ac}{b}$

$\frac{a}{b}+\frac{c}{d}=\frac{ad+bc}{bd}$ $\qquad \frac{a}{b}-\frac{c}{d}=\frac{ad-bc}{bd}$

$\frac{a-b}{c-d}=\frac{b-a}{d-c}$ $\qquad \frac{a+b}{c}=\frac{a}{c}+\frac{b}{c}$

$\frac{ab+ac}{a}=b+c,\ a\neq 0$ $\qquad \frac{\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)}{\left(\frac{c}{d}\right)}=\frac{ad}{bc}$

Exponent Properties

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

$\left(a^n\right)^m=a^{nm}$ $\qquad a^0=1,\quad a\neq 0$

$(ab)^n=a^n b^n$ $\qquad \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^n=\frac{a^n}{b^n}$

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

$\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n}=\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^n=\frac{b^n}{a^n}$ $\qquad a^{\frac{n}{m}}=\left(a^{\frac{1}{m}}\right)^n=\left(a^n\right)^{\frac{1}{m}}$

Properties of Radicals

$\sqrt[n]{a}=a^{\frac{1}{n}}$ $\qquad \sqrt[n]{ab}=\sqrt[n]{a}\sqrt[n]{b}$

$\sqrt[m]{\sqrt[n]{a}}=\sqrt[nm]{a}$ $\qquad \sqrt[n]{\frac{a}{b}}=\frac{\sqrt[n]{a}}{\sqrt[n]{b}}$

$\sqrt[n]{a^n}=a$, if n is odd

$\sqrt[n]{a^n}=|a|$, if n is even

Properties of Inequalities

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$i=\sqrt{-1}$ $\qquad i^2=-1$ $\qquad -a=i\sqrt{a},\ a\geq 0$

$(a+bi)+(c+di)=(a+c)+(b+d)i$

$(a+bi)-(c+di)=(a-c)+(b-d)i$

$(a+bi)(c+di)=(ac-bd)+(ad+bc)i$

$(a+bi)(a-bi)=a^2+b^2$

$|a+bi|=\sqrt{a^2+b^2}$ Complex Modulus

$\overline{a+bi}=a-bi$ Complex Conjugate

$(a+bi)+\overline{(a+bi)}=2a+bi$

Logarithms and Log Properties

Definition

$y = \log_b x$ is equivalent to $x = b^y$

Example

$\log_5 125 = 3$ because $5^3 = 125$

Special Logarithms

$\ln x = \log_e x$ natural log

$\log x = \log_{10} x$ common log

where $e = 2.718281828$**K**

Logarithm Properties

log log 1 a log 1 0 log

log ( ) log

log ( ) log log

log — log log

For a complete set of