

Skill description: Simplifying algebraic fractions that contain multiple variables raised to powers.







STRATEGIES TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS

Index laws

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

Example 1

Simplify the following algebraic fraction leaving your answer with positive indices.





Using the index laws, we can simplify.



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Example 2

Simplify the following algebraic fraction leaving your answer with positive indices.

$$\frac{x^2 y^6}{x^5 y^5}$$

Step 1

Using the index laws, we can simplify.









Solutions to Essential Revision

1.	$\frac{16}{9}$	2.	$\frac{6gh}{j+5}$
3.	$\frac{3}{2p}$	4.	$\frac{1}{x^2}$
5.	$4\frac{2}{3}$	6.	$2a - \frac{b}{y}$
7.	$\frac{1}{5z}$	8.	<i>x</i>
9.	$\frac{1}{2}$	10.	$\frac{3x}{y}$
11.	$\frac{3a}{5c}$	12.	$\frac{1}{b^2}$

Solutions to Questions

1.	$\frac{y^4}{x^2}$	2.	$\frac{x}{y^2}$
3.	$\frac{a^2}{b^4}$	4.	$\frac{g^4}{f^2}$
5.	$\frac{m^2}{n^5}$	6.	$\frac{xy}{z^2}$
7.	$\frac{c^7}{d^4e^6}$	8.	$\frac{w^5 x^3}{y}$
9.	$\frac{x^2z^7}{y^5}$	10.	$\frac{x^6}{y^7 z^2}$
11.	$\frac{a^3}{b^7c^3}$	12.	$\frac{f^2g^2}{h^3}$

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