



# Calculating with Surds



REVISE THIS TOPIC



For the entire booklet

1 Express  $\sqrt{12}$  in its simplest form. [1 mark]

$$\sqrt{12} = \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{3}$$

Answer            $2\sqrt{3}$           

2 Express  $\sqrt{50}$  in its simplest form. [1 mark]

$$\sqrt{50} = \sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{2}$$

Answer            $5\sqrt{2}$           

3 Express  $\sqrt{500}$  in its simplest form. [1 mark]

$$\sqrt{500} = \sqrt{100} \times \sqrt{5}$$

Answer            $10\sqrt{5}$           

4 Express  $\sqrt{27}$  in its simplest form. [1 mark]

$$\sqrt{27} = \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{3}$$

Answer            $3\sqrt{3}$           

5 Express  $\sqrt{98}$  in its simplest form. [1 mark]

$$\sqrt{98} = \sqrt{49} \times \sqrt{2}$$

Answer            $7\sqrt{2}$           

6 Express  $\sqrt{48}$  in its simplest form. [1 mark]

$$\sqrt{48} = \sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{3}$$

Answer            $4\sqrt{3}$           





7 Express  $5\sqrt{8}$  in its simplest form.  $5 \times \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{2}$   
 $= 5 \times 2 \times \sqrt{2}$  [1 mark]

Answer            $10\sqrt{2}$           

8 Express  $4\sqrt{18}$  in its simplest form.  $4 \times \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{2}$   
 $= 4 \times 3 \times \sqrt{2}$  [1 mark]

Answer            $12\sqrt{2}$           

9 Express  $2\sqrt{200}$  in its simplest form.  $2 \times \sqrt{100} \times \sqrt{2}$   
 $= 2 \times 10 \times \sqrt{2}$  [1 mark]

Answer            $20\sqrt{2}$           

10 Express  $9\sqrt{20}$  in its simplest form.  $9 \times \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{5}$   
 $= 9 \times 2 \times \sqrt{5}$  [1 mark]

Answer            $18\sqrt{5}$           

11 Express  $7\sqrt{640}$  in its simplest form.  $7 \times \sqrt{64} \times \sqrt{10}$   
 $= 7 \times 8 \times \sqrt{10}$  [1 mark]

Answer            $56\sqrt{10}$           

12 Express  $5\sqrt{80}$  in its simplest form.  $5 \times \sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{5}$   
 $= 5 \times 4 \times \sqrt{5}$  [1 mark]

Answer            $20\sqrt{5}$           

13 Express  $3\sqrt{72}$  in its simplest form.  $3 \times \sqrt{36} \times \sqrt{2}$   
 $= 3 \times 6 \times \sqrt{2}$  [1 mark]

Answer            $18\sqrt{2}$           





14 Work out  $\sqrt{6} \times \sqrt{3}$  giving your answer in its simplest form. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{18} &= \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{2} \\ &= 3 \times \sqrt{2}\end{aligned}$$

Answer  $3\sqrt{2}$

15 Work out  $\sqrt{10} \times \sqrt{6}$  giving your answer in its simplest form. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{60} &= \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{15} \\ &= 2 \times \sqrt{15}\end{aligned}$$

Answer  $2\sqrt{15}$

16 Work out  $2\sqrt{5} \times 5\sqrt{8}$  giving your answer in its simplest form. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}10\sqrt{40} &= 10 \times \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{10} \\ &= 10 \times 2 \times \sqrt{10}\end{aligned}$$

Answer  $20\sqrt{10}$

17 Work out  $4\sqrt{2} \times 2\sqrt{12}$  giving your answer in its simplest form. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}8\sqrt{24} &= 8 \times \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{6} \\ &= 8 \times 2 \times \sqrt{6}\end{aligned}$$

Answer  $16\sqrt{6}$

18 Work out  $2\sqrt{20} \times 3\sqrt{5}$  giving your answer as an integer. [2 marks]

$$6\sqrt{100} = 6 \times 10$$

Answer  $60$





19 Work out  $(\sqrt{6})^2$  giving your answer as an integer. [2 marks]

$$\sqrt{6} \times \sqrt{6} = \sqrt{36}$$

Answer 6

20 Work out  $(\sqrt{5})^4$  giving your answer as an integer. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} &\sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{5} \times \sqrt{5} \\ &= 5 \times 5 \end{aligned}$$

Answer 25

21 Work out  $(2\sqrt{3})^3$  giving your answer in its simplest form. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} &2\sqrt{3} \times 2\sqrt{3} \times 2\sqrt{3} = 8\sqrt{27} \\ &= 8 \times \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{3} \\ &= 8 \times 3 \times \sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

Answer  $24\sqrt{3}$

22 Work out  $(\sqrt{2} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{5})^2$  giving your answer as an integer. [2 marks]

$$(\sqrt{30})^2 = \sqrt{30} \times \sqrt{30}$$

Answer 30

23 Express  $(\sqrt{3})^7$  in the form  $a\sqrt{3}$ , where  $a$  is an integer. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} &\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3} \\ &= 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times \sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

Answer  $27\sqrt{3}$





24 Work out  $\sqrt{60} \div \sqrt{3}$  giving your answer in its simplest form. [2 marks]

$$\sqrt{20} = \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{5}$$
$$= 2 \times \sqrt{5}$$

Answer  $2\sqrt{5}$

25 Work out  $8\sqrt{30} \div 4\sqrt{6}$  giving your answer in its simplest form. [1 mark]

Answer \_\_\_\_\_

26 Simplify fully  $\frac{18\sqrt{150}}{9\sqrt{3}}$  [2 marks]

$$2\sqrt{50} = 2 \times \sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{2}$$
$$= 2 \times 5 \times \sqrt{2}$$

Answer  $10\sqrt{2}$

27 Simplify fully  $\frac{40\sqrt{40}}{5\sqrt{10}}$  [2 marks]

$$8\sqrt{4} = 8 \times 2$$

Answer  $16$

28 Simplify fully  $\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{5}}\right)^2$  [2 marks]

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{5}}\right)^2 = \sqrt{\frac{2}{5}} \times \sqrt{\frac{2}{5}}$$

Answer  $\frac{2}{5}$





29 Simplify  $\sqrt{11} + \sqrt{11} + \sqrt{11}$  [1 mark]

---

---

Answer            $3\sqrt{11}$           

30 Simplify  $3\sqrt{5} + 6\sqrt{5}$  [1 mark]

---

---

Answer            $9\sqrt{5}$           

31 Simplify  $9\sqrt{7} + 3\sqrt{7} - \sqrt{7}$  [1 mark]

---

---

Answer            $11\sqrt{7}$           

32 Work out  $(\sqrt{2} + 6\sqrt{2} - 2\sqrt{2})^2$  giving your answer as an integer. [2 marks]

$$(5\sqrt{2})^2 = 5\sqrt{2} \times 5\sqrt{2}$$

$$= 25\sqrt{4}$$

Answer            $50$           

33 Simplify  $4\sqrt{3} + 6\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{3} + 8\sqrt{2}$  [2 marks]

$$3\sqrt{3} + 14\sqrt{2}$$

Answer            $3\sqrt{3} + 14\sqrt{2}$           





34 Express  $\sqrt{18} + \sqrt{2}$  in the form  $a\sqrt{2}$ , where  $a$  is an integer. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2} \\ & = 3\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

Answer  $4\sqrt{2}$

35 Express  $2\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{75}$  in the form  $a\sqrt{3}$ , where  $a$  is an integer. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} & 2\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{3} \\ & = 2\sqrt{3} + 5\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

Answer  $7\sqrt{3}$

36 Express  $\sqrt{32} + \sqrt{8}$  in the form  $a\sqrt{2}$ , where  $a$  is an integer. [3 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{2} + \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{2} \\ & = 4\sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

Answer  $6\sqrt{2}$

37 Express  $3\sqrt{500} - \sqrt{20}$  in the form  $a\sqrt{5}$ , where  $a$  is an integer. [3 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} & 3 \times \sqrt{100} \times \sqrt{5} - \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{5} \\ & = 30\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{5} \end{aligned}$$

Answer  $28\sqrt{5}$

38 Express  $\sqrt{28} + \sqrt{175} - 3\sqrt{7}$  in the form  $a\sqrt{7}$ , where  $a$  is an integer. [3 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} & \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{7} + \sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{7} - 3\sqrt{7} \\ & = 2\sqrt{7} + 5\sqrt{7} - 3\sqrt{7} \end{aligned}$$

Answer  $4\sqrt{7}$



- 39 Ross is doing a surds question.  
Ross writes:

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{300} + \sqrt{12} &= \sqrt{312} \\ &= \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{78} \\ &= 2 \times \sqrt{78} \\ &= 2\sqrt{78}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{300} + \sqrt{12} \\ &= \sqrt{100} \times \sqrt{3} + \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{3} \\ &= 10\sqrt{3} + 2\sqrt{3} \\ &= 12\sqrt{3}\end{aligned}$$

Explain the mistake that Ross has made

[1 mark]

You cannot add  $\sqrt{300}$  and  $\sqrt{12}$  as they do not have the same number inside the roots. Ross should simplify them first.

- 40 Work out  $\frac{\sqrt{30} \times 5\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{125} - \sqrt{20}}$  giving your answer as an integer.

[4 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{5\sqrt{180}}{\sqrt{25} \times \sqrt{5} - \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{5}} &= \frac{5 \times \sqrt{36} \times \sqrt{5}}{5\sqrt{5} - 2\sqrt{5}} \\ &= \frac{5 \times 6 \times \sqrt{5}}{3\sqrt{5}} \\ &= \frac{30\cancel{\sqrt{5}}}{3\cancel{\sqrt{5}}}\end{aligned}$$

Answer 10

