

## 15 - Counting, accuracy, powers and surds

### Reciprocals

- We just flip the fraction to get the reciprocal

$$5 = \frac{5}{1} \qquad \frac{5}{1} \longrightarrow \frac{1}{5}$$

- If we need the negative reciprocal, switch the sign and flip the fraction

$$-\frac{1}{2} \longrightarrow \frac{2}{1} \qquad \frac{2}{6} \longrightarrow -\frac{6}{2}$$

### Surds

$$\sqrt{a} \times \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab}$$

$$C\sqrt{a} \times D\sqrt{b} = CD\sqrt{ab}$$

$$\sqrt{a} \div \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{a/b}$$

$$C\sqrt{a} \div D\sqrt{b} = C/D\sqrt{a/b}$$

$$\frac{\sqrt{a}}{\sqrt{b}} = \sqrt{a/b}$$

$$\sqrt{b}$$

- When adding, treat it like algebra, you can only add together the same surd, so change the  $\sqrt{\text{'s}}$  to like terms.
- Do this by leaving the same irrational number.

### Simplifying Surds

e.g.  $\sqrt{12}$

- Find 2 numbers that are factors, one must be a **square** number

$$4 \times 3 = 12$$

- Simplify  $\longrightarrow$  Root of square number goes outside, other number goes inside

$$\begin{array}{c} 2\sqrt{3} \\ \nearrow \quad \nwarrow \end{array}$$

Root of 4    Other factor

You want the **biggest** possible root as a in  $a\sqrt{b}$

### Expanding surds

- Square a  $\longrightarrow a^2$
- Multiply  $a^2 \times b$
- $\sqrt{a^2} \times \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{a^2b}$

### Simplifying Surd x Surd

- Times outside numbers together
- Times irrational numbers together
- Simplify further, want biggest possible number outside. Recognise square factors, root then multiply them to the outside number.

$$C\sqrt{a} \times D\sqrt{b} = CD\sqrt{ab} = 2\sqrt{45} \times 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$2 \times 6\sqrt{45 \times 2} = 6\sqrt{90}$$

$$6 \sqrt{9 \times 10}$$

$$6 \times 3 \times \sqrt{10} = 18\sqrt{10}$$

### Rationalising

Getting rid of surd from the denominator

For normal rationalising, just multiply the surd by itself:

$$\frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

For rationalising when there is more than just the surd as the denominator, multiply by the opposite

±:

$$\bullet \frac{b}{2+\sqrt{a}} \times \frac{2-\sqrt{a}}{2-\sqrt{a}} = \frac{b(2-\sqrt{a})}{(2+\sqrt{a})(2-\sqrt{a})} = \frac{2b-b\sqrt{a}}{4-a}$$

### Limits of accuracy

Degree of rounding

e.g.

$$1100 = 2 \text{ s.f.}$$

Find the values that would round to 1100 for 2sf

$$1050 \leq 1100 < 1150$$

Max speed = greatest distance/shortest time

Population density = total population/total area

### Choices and outcomes

Permutation	Combination
Order/position does matter	Order does not matter
With repetition = $nR$	With repetition = $nR$
Without repetition = $nPr$	Without repetition = $nCr$