

Solving Exponential and Logarithmic Equations 3

Property of Equality for Logarithmic Equations: If $\log_b x = \log_b y$, then $x = y$.

In other words, when there is 1 Logarithm on the left, and 1 Logarithm on the right, then you can cancel the Logarithmic arguments.

Ex. 1 Solve by using properties of logarithms.

Solve: $\log_7(x-8) + \log_7(2) = \log_7(x-1)$

Solve: $\log(5x+2) = \log(x+1) + \log(2) + \log(3)$

$$\log_7(2x-16) = \log_7(x-1) \rightarrow x-16 = -1$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x-16 = x-1 \\ -x \quad -x \\ \hline x = 15 \end{array}$$

$$\log(5x+2) = \log(x+1) + \log(2) + \log(3)$$

$$\log(5x+2) = \log(6x+6) \rightarrow 2 = x+6$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x+2 = 6x+6 \\ -5x \quad -5x \\ \hline -4 = x \end{array}$$

YOU TRY!

Solve: $\log_8(2x+3) + \log_8(4) = \log_8(4-x)$

Ex. 2 Solve by using properties of logarithms.

Solve: $\log_2(2x+3) - \log_2(5) = \log_2(x+1)$

Solve: $\log(2x+1) - \log(x) = \log(3) + \log(4)$

$$\log_2\left(\frac{2x+3}{5}\right) = \log_2(x+1)$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x+3 = 5(x+1) \\ 2x+3 = 5x+5 \\ -2x \quad -2x \\ \hline 3x = -2 \\ \frac{3x}{3} = \frac{-2}{3} \\ x = -\frac{2}{3} \end{array}$$

$$\log\left(\frac{2x+1}{x}\right) = \log(12)$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x+1 = 12x \\ -2x \quad -2x \\ \hline 1 = 10x \\ \frac{1}{10} = \frac{10x}{10} \\ x = \frac{1}{10} \end{array}$$

YOU TRY!

Solve: $\log(x+1) - \log(10) = \log(10)$

Ex. 3 Solve by using properties of logarithms.

Solve: $\log_3(2x-1) + \log_3(4) = 1$

Change to exponential

Solve: $\log(x+2) - \log(2x) = 2$

$$\log_3(8x-4) = 1$$

$$3^1 = 8x-4$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 = 8x-4 \\ +4 \quad +4 \\ \hline 7 = 8x \\ \frac{7}{8} = \frac{8x}{8} \\ x = \frac{7}{8} \end{array}$$

$$\log\left(\frac{x+2}{2x}\right) = 2$$

$$10^2 = \frac{x+2}{2x}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 100 = \frac{x+2}{2x} \\ 1 \times 2x \\ \hline 200x = x+2 \\ -x \quad -x \\ \hline 199x = 2 \\ \frac{199x}{199} = \frac{2}{199} \\ x = \frac{2}{199} \end{array}$$

YOU TRY!

Solve: $\log_2(3) + \log_2(2x) = 3$

Solve: $\log_2(2x+3) - \log_2(x) = 3$