



Log Rules

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Logarithms and Exponents

Definition of a Logarithm

$\log_b(x) = y$ \Leftrightarrow (is equivalent to) $b^y = x$ \Leftrightarrow "log base b of x equals y (the exponent)"

(Labels: Exponent points to y , BASE points to b)

$\log_b(x) = y$ \Leftrightarrow "b to the y = x" $\Leftrightarrow b^y = x$

 (Labels: equals points to the equivalence chain, to the points to y)

$\log_2(4) = y$ $\Leftrightarrow 2^y = 4$ $\Leftrightarrow 2^y = 2^2$ \therefore (therefore) $y = 2$

Common Log

$$\log(x) = \log_{10}(x)$$

Natural Log

$$\log_e(x) = \ln(x)$$

$$e = 2.7182818\dots$$

Inverse Rules

$$10^{\log_{10}(x)} = x^{**}$$

$$e^{\ln(x)} = x$$

$$\ln(e) = 1$$

$$\log_{10} 10^x = x$$

$$\ln(e^x) = x$$

$$\log 10 = 1$$

$$\log_b b^x = x$$

$$\log_b b = 1$$

Other Facts

$$\log_b(0) = \text{undefined}$$

$$\log_b(1) = 0$$

Domain of $\log_b(x)$ is $x > 1$

Properties

Product Rule

$$\log x + \log y = \log(x \cdot y)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \log(x \cdot y) = \log x + \log y$$

Quotient Rule

$$\log x - \log y = \log\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \log\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \log x - \log y$$

Power Rule

$$p \log_b x = \log_b x^p$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \log_b x^p = p \log_b x$$

Change of Base Rule

$$\log_b x = \frac{\ln(x)}{\ln(b)}$$

or
$$\log_b x = \frac{\log(x)}{\log(b)}$$

$$**\log(x^2) = 25$$

$$10^{\log(x^2)} = 10^{25}$$

$$x^2 = 10^{25}$$