

CHAPTER 3 Polynomials
3.3 Discover the Exponent Laws
Multiplying Powers With the Same Base

Example:

Write each as a single power. Then, evaluate.

a) $3^2 \times 3 \times 3^5$

b) $b^4 \times b^3$, when $b = 2$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } 3^2 \times 3 \times 3^5 &= 3^{2+1+5} \\ &= 3^8 \\ &= 6561 \end{aligned}$$

Hint: Don't forget to include the exponent from the middle term.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) } b^4 \times b^3 &= b^{4+3} \\ &= b^7 \\ &= 2^7 \\ &= 128 \end{aligned}$$

Practice: Write each of the following as a single power. Then, evaluate.

1. $4^2 \times 4^3 \times 4$

2. $t^3 \times t^6$, when $t = -1$

Answers:

1. 4096 2. -1