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# Dividing Polynomials

11.5

# Dividing a Polynomial by a Monomial



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- Divide each term in the polynomial by the monomial.

a.  $3s^2 + 3s - 9 \div 3s$

$$\frac{3s^2}{3s} + \frac{3s}{3s} - \frac{9}{3s}$$

b.  $4x^2 - 6x + 8 \div 2x$

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# Dividing a Polynomial by a Monomial

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$$\frac{\overset{s}{\cancel{3}}\cancel{s}^2}{\underset{1}{\cancel{3}}\cancel{s}} + \frac{\overset{\cancel{3}s}{\cancel{3s}}\underset{1}{\cancel{1}}}{\underset{\cancel{3s}}{\cancel{3s}}\underset{1}{\cancel{1}}} - \frac{9}{3s}$$

b.  $4x^2 - 6x + 8 \div 2x$

# Dividing a Polynomial by a Monomial

- Divide each term in the polynomial by the monomial.

a.  $3s^2 + 3s - 9 \div 3s$

$$\frac{s \cancel{3} s^2}{1 \cancel{3} s} + \frac{\cancel{3} s 1}{\cancel{3} s 1} - \frac{\cancel{9} 3}{\cancel{3} s s}$$

$$s + 1 - \frac{3}{s}$$

b.  $4x^2 - 6x + 8 \div 2x$

$$\frac{4x^2}{2x} - \frac{6x}{2x} + \frac{8}{2x}$$

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$$s + 1 - \frac{3}{s}$$

b.  $4x^2 - 6x + 8 \div 2x$

$$\frac{\cancel{2x} \cancel{4} x^2}{\cancel{1} \cancel{2} x} - \frac{6x}{2x} + \frac{8}{2x}$$

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b.  $4x^2 - 6x + 8 \div 2x$

$$\frac{2x \cancel{4} x^2}{1 \cancel{2} x} - \frac{\cancel{6} x^3}{\cancel{2} x 1} + \frac{8}{2x}$$

# Dividing a Polynomial by a Monomial

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$$s + 1 - \frac{3}{s}$$

b.  $4x^2 - 6x + 8 \div 2x$

$$\frac{\cancel{2x} \cancel{4} x^2}{\cancel{1} \cancel{2} x} - \frac{\cancel{6} \cancel{x} 3}{\cancel{2} \cancel{x} 1} + \frac{\cancel{8} 4}{\cancel{2} x x}$$

$$2x - 3 + \frac{4}{x}$$





# On Your Own

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Find the quotient.

1.  $(4z^2 - 18z) \div 2z$

$$2z - 9$$

2.  $(n^2 - 4n + 8) \div n$

$$n - 4 + \frac{8}{n}$$

3.  $(y^3 - 4y^2 + 9y) \div 4y$

$$\frac{y^2}{4} - y + \frac{9}{4}$$

# Dividing a Polynomial by a Binomial: No Remainder

- You can use long division to divide a polynomial by a binomial.  
Find  $(s^2 - 2s - 8) \div (s + 2)$ .

**Step 1:** Divide the first term of dividend by first term of the divisor.

$$\begin{array}{r} s \\ s + 2 \overline{) s^2 - 2s - 8} \\ \underline{-(s^2 + 2s)} \phantom{- 8} \\ -4s - 8 \end{array}$$

Divide:  $s^2 \div s = s$

Multiply:  $s(s + 2)$

Subtract. Bring down  $-8$

**Step 2:** Divide the first term of  $-4s - 8$  by first term of the divisor.

$$\begin{array}{r} s - 4 \\ s + 2 \overline{) s^2 - 2s - 8} \\ \underline{-(s^2 + 2s)} \phantom{- 8} \\ -4s - 8 \\ \underline{-(-4s - 8)} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Multiply:  $-4(s + 2)$

Subtract.



# Dividing a Polynomial by a Binomial: No Remainder

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- You could have also factored out  $s^2 - 2s - 8$  and divided out a common factor..

$$\frac{(s - 4)\cancel{(s + 2)}}{\cancel{s + 2}} = s - 4$$



# Dividing a Polynomial by a Binomial: Remainder

When you use long division to divide polynomials and you obtain a nonzero remainder, use the following rule.

$$\text{Dividend} \div \text{Divisor} = \text{Quotient} + \frac{\text{Remainder}}{\text{Divisor}}$$

Find  $(2 - 7y + y^2) \div (y - 3)$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{y - 3} \overline{y - 4} \\ y - 3 \overline{) y^2 - 7y + 2} \\ \underline{-(y^2 - 3y)} \phantom{+ 2} \\ -4y + 2 \\ \underline{-(-4y + 12)} \\ -10 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So, } (2 - 7y + y^2) \div (y - 3) = y - 4 - \frac{10}{y - 3}.$$



# On Your Own

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Find the quotient.

4.  $(s^2 - 3s - 28) \div (s - 7)$        $s + 4$

5.  $(x^2 + 4x - 5) \div (2 + x)$        $x + 2 - \frac{9}{x + 2}$

# Inserting a Missing Term

- When dividing polynomials using long division, first write the polynomials in standard form and insert any missing terms..

Find  $(2s^2 - 4) \div (s - 2)$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} \phantom{s - 2} \overline{) 2s^2 + 0s - 4} \\ \phantom{s - 2} \underline{-(2s^2 - 4s)} \phantom{4} \\ \phantom{s - 2} \phantom{2s^2} 4s - 4 \\ \phantom{s - 2} \phantom{2s^2} \underline{-(4s - 8)} \\ \phantom{s - 2} \phantom{2s^2} \phantom{4s} 4 \end{array}$$

$$\text{So, } (2s^2 - 4) \div (s - 2) = 2s + 4 + \frac{4}{s-2}$$



# On Your Own

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**Find the quotient.**

6.  $(z^2 + 6) \div (z + 9)$

$$z - 9 + \frac{87}{z + 9}$$

7.  $(9y^2 - 4) \div (3y + 2)$

$$3y - 2$$