

Exponential Equations

Like Bases



Solving Exponential Equations

$$2^x = 2^4$$

$$x = 4$$

If the bases are the same, then the exponents are equal

Solving Exponential Equations

$$2^x = 2^{3x-1}$$

$$x = 3x - 1$$

$$-3x$$

$$-\frac{1}{2}x = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}$$

Solve: $2^{3x+2} = 8$

$$2^{3x+2} = 2^3$$

$$3x + \cancel{2} = \frac{3}{\cancel{-2}}$$

$$\frac{3}{3}x = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{3}$$

① Rewrite so
that the bases are
the same

② Set the exponents
equal to each other
and solve



Solve: $27^{x+9} = 3^{2x-4}$

$$\left(3^3 \right)^{x+9} = 3^{2x-4}$$
$$3^{3x+27} = 3^{2x-4}$$

$$3x+27 = \cancel{2x}-4$$
$$-2x$$

$$x + \cancel{27} = -4$$
$$-27$$

$$\boxed{x = -31}$$



Solve: $27^{x-7} = 9^{2x-5}$

$$\left(3^3\right)^{x-7} = \left(3^2\right)^{2x-5}$$
$$3^{3x-21} = 3^{4x-10}$$
$$\cancel{3x} - 21 = 4x - 10$$
$$\phantom{\cancel{3x} - 21} - 3x$$
$$-21 = x - 10$$
$$+10$$
$$\boxed{-11 = x}$$



Solve: $32^{5x+7} = 64^{2x-9}$

$$\left(2^5\right)^{5x+7} = \left(2^6\right)^{2x-9}$$

$$2^{25x+35} = 2^{12x-54}$$

$$25x + 35 = 12x - 54$$
$$-12x$$

$$13x + \cancel{35} = -54$$
$$-35$$

$$13x = -89$$

$$x = -\frac{89}{13}$$



Solve: $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{x+4} = 8$

$\left(2^{-1}\right)^{x+4} = 2^3$

$2^{-x-4} = 2^3$

$-x-4 = 3$

$-x = 7$

$x = -7$



$$4^x = 1$$

$$x = 0$$

Solve: $\left(\frac{1}{9}\right)^{6x+2} = 27$

$$\left(\frac{1}{3^2}\right)^{6x+2} = 3^3$$

$$\left(3^{-2}\right)^{6x+2} = 3^3$$

$$3^{-12x-4} = 3^3$$

$$-12x - 4 = 3$$

$$-12x = \frac{7}{-12}$$

$$x = -\frac{7}{12}$$

