



Math Virtual Learning

# College Prep Algebra

April 30, 2020



College Prep Algebra  
Lesson: April 30, 2020

**Objective/Learning Target:**  
How to divide rational expressions and  
write the quotient in simplest form.

Let's Get Started:  
Here's an example of a Rational Expression.

$$\frac{x^2 + 5}{x + 2}$$

← numerator  
← denominator

A Rational Expression  
*because it is a "ratio"  
of two polynomials*

Yep! It is a fraction.  
And it will have an algebraic numerator and denominator.

Today, we are going to focus on dividing and simplifying the rational expression.

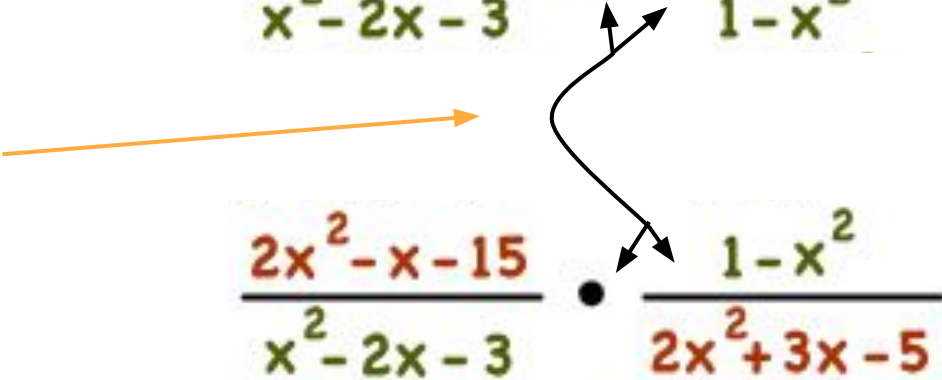
# Lesson:

When dividing fractions, you have been taught to keep the first fraction and then multiply by the reciprocal of the second fraction.

If you would like to know why we multiply by the reciprocal of the second fraction, please scroll to the last page to watch a video that wonderfully explains why.

Simplify this Division

$$\frac{2x^2 - x - 15}{x^2 - 2x - 3} \div \frac{2x^2 + 3x - 5}{1 - x^2}$$

$$\frac{2x^2 - x - 15}{x^2 - 2x - 3} \cdot \frac{1 - x^2}{2x^2 + 3x - 5}$$


## Lesson:

On 4/29, you learned to multiply a rational expression by factoring and then canceling common factors from the numerator and the denominator.

Finish by multiplying across the numerators and then the denominators.

$$\frac{2x^2 - x - 15}{x^2 - 2x - 3} \cdot \frac{1 - x^2}{2x^2 + 3x - 5}$$

$$\frac{\cancel{(2x+5)}\cancel{(x-3)}}{\cancel{(x-3)}\cancel{(x+1)}} \cdot \frac{(1-x)\cancel{(1+x)}}{\cancel{(2x+5)}(x-1)}$$

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

**Lesson:** Here is the complete process of the problem.

### Simplify this Division

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{2x^2 - x - 15}{x^2 - 2x - 3} \div \frac{2x^2 + 3x - 5}{1 - x^2} \\ &= \frac{2x^2 - x - 15}{x^2 - 2x - 3} \cdot \frac{1 - x^2}{2x^2 + 3x - 5} \\ &= \frac{\cancel{(2x+5)}\cancel{(x-3)}}{\cancel{(x-3)}\cancel{(x+1)}} \cdot \frac{(1-x)\cancel{(1+x)}}{\cancel{(2x+5)}(x-1)} = \frac{1-x}{x-1} \end{aligned}$$

## Practice

Multiplying Rational Expressions

DO #15-26

Problems and Answers

## Even more practice

Dividing Rational Expressions with Answers.

(Only do the ones that show Division)

But it isn't always that simple.

$$\frac{5}{10} \div \frac{5}{6} = \frac{1}{1.6}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1\frac{4}{6} \\ 6 \overline{)10} \\ \underline{-6} \\ 4 \end{array}$$

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$$\frac{5}{10}$$

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$$\frac{5}{6}$$

