

Multiplying Radical Expressions Guided Lesson Explanation

1. $\sqrt{6} \bullet \sqrt{6}$

This is an example where we can simplify by combining the radicands as we learn in the lesson.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{radical symbol} \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \sqrt{a} \bullet \sqrt{b} = \sqrt{ab} \\ \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \\ \text{radicand a} \quad \text{radicand b} \quad \text{product of radicands a and b} \end{array}$$



$$\sqrt{6} \bullet \sqrt{6} = \sqrt{6 \bullet 6} = \sqrt{36} = \sqrt{6^2} = 6$$

2. $\sqrt{3} \bullet \sqrt{12}$

This question follows the same technique. It is not that obvious until you get into the arithmetic of it all. We will now apply this to the problem.

$$\sqrt{3} \bullet \sqrt{12} = \sqrt{3 \bullet 12} = \sqrt{36} = \sqrt{6^2} = 6$$

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$$3. \sqrt{2} (\sqrt{2} - 3)$$

At first the parathesis may confuse you, but if you relax what the non-condensed form of this expression is, you will see that it also follows this method because it is a product of what is outside the parathesis with everything that is inside it. We will process this now:

$$\sqrt{2} (\sqrt{2} - 3) = \sqrt{2} \bullet \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2} \bullet 3$$

We can follow the same method we have been using, but we must realize that this only applies to radicals. When we are multiplying a number inside a radical with one that is outside, we place them side by side.

$$\sqrt{2} \bullet \sqrt{2} - \sqrt{2} \bullet 3$$

$$= \sqrt{4} - 3\sqrt{2} \quad \text{We can simplify by taking the square of 4. } \sqrt{4} = 2$$

$$= 2 - 3\sqrt{2} \quad \text{We cannot reduce any further.}$$