

# Algebra Section 9-1 Notes

## Adding & Subtracting Polynomials

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Monomial:** an expression that is a number, a variable, or a product of a number and one or more variables.

These are monomials:  $12$   $y$   $-3xy^2$   $\frac{g}{5}$

These are NOT:  $\sqrt{x}$   $8 - r$   $\frac{1}{y}$   $|2z|$

**Degree of a monomial:** the sum of the exponents of the variables.

For a nonzero constant, the degree is 0. Zero itself has no degree.

**Example One:** Find the degree of each monomial.

a.  $5x$       b.  $\frac{4}{7}x^2$       c.  $8x^2y^3$       d.  $-12$       e.  $-9m^3$       f.  $5x^0$

\_\_\_\_\_

**Polynomial:** a monomial or the sum or difference of two or more monomials.

Ex:  $6x^4 + 8x^2 - 9x + 2$

The polynomial above is shown in *standard form*.

**Standard form of a polynomial** means the degrees of its monomial terms *decrease from left to right*.

After a polynomial has been simplified by combining like terms, you can name the polynomial based on its degree or the number of monomials it contains. The **degree of a polynomial** in one variable is the same as the degree of the monomial with the greatest exponent.

Polynomial	Degree	Name Using Degree	Number of Terms	Name Using Number of Terms
$8x - 3$	1	Linear	2	Binomial
$2z^2 + 4z + 1$	2	Quadratic	3	Trinomial
$7m^3$	3	Cubic	1	Monomial
$8x^4 + 5x$	4	Fourth power	2	Binomial
$4$	0	Constant	1	Monomial

**Example Two: Classifying Polynomials**

Write each polynomial in standard form. Name each polynomial based on degree and number of terms.

a.  $6 - 5x$  \_\_\_\_\_

b.  $4x^2 + 5 + 2x^4$  \_\_\_\_\_

c.  $8 + 7v - 12v$  \_\_\_\_\_

**Combining Polynomials:** You can add two or more polynomials by adding like terms.

**Example 3: Adding Polynomials**

Simplify  $(5x^2 + 6x + 7) + (3x^2 - 8x + 2)$ .

Vertical method:

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^2 + 6x + 7 \\ 3x^2 - 8x + 2 \\ \hline 8x^2 - 2x + 9 \end{array}$$

Horizontal method: Group like terms, then add coefficients.

$$\begin{aligned} &(5x^2 + 6x + 7) + (3x^2 - 8x + 2) \\ &= (5x^2 + 3x^2) + (6x - 8x) + (7 + 2) \\ &= 8x^2 - 2x + 9 \end{aligned}$$

a.  $(12m^2 + 4) + (8m^2 + 5)$       b.  $(t^2 - 6) + (3t^2 + 11)$       c.  $(9w^3 + 8w^2) + (7w^3 + 4)$

**Example 4: Subtracting Polynomials**

Simplify  $(3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x) - (x^3 - 7x^2 + 10)$

Method 1: Subtract vertically

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x \\ - (x^3 - 7x^2 + 10) \\ \hline 3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x \\ -x^3 + 7x^2 - 10 \\ \hline 2x^3 + 12x^2 - 4x - 10 \end{array}$$

Line up like terms

Add the *opposites*.

Method 2: Subtract horizontally

$$\begin{aligned} &(3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x) - (x^3 - 7x^2 + 10) \\ &= 3x^3 + 5x^2 - 4x - x^3 + 7x^2 - 10 \\ &= (3x^3 - x^3) + (5x^2 + 7x^2) - 4x - 10 \\ &= 2x^3 + 12x^2 - 4x - 10 \end{aligned}$$

a.  $(v^3 + 6v^2 - v) - (9v^3 - 7v^2 + 3v)$

b.  $(30d^3 - 29d^2 - 3d) - (2d^3 + d^2)$

c.  $(4x^2 + 5x + 1) - (6x^2 + x + 8)$

Homework: Textbook problems: Pages 459-460, #1 to 8, 10, 11, 12, 18, 20, 24, 26, 29, 31, 47.