

* If there is a log on both sides, set the arguments equal.

* If there is a log on only one side, combine and change to exponential form

Section 9.3 – Properties of Logarithms

Day 2

key

You can use the properties of logarithms to solve equations involving logarithms.

Use the properties in reverse to write each side of the equation as a single logarithm.

Solve each equation.

1) $2\log_7 x = \log_7 27 + \log_7 3$

$$\log_7 x^2 = \log_7 (27 \cdot 3)$$

$$x^2 = 81$$

$$x = 9$$

2) $\log_6 x + \log_6 (x+5) = 2$

$$\log_6 x(x+5) = 2$$

$$6^2 = x^2 + 5x$$

$$0 = x^2 + 5x - 36$$

$$0 = (x+9)(x-4)$$

$$x = -9, 4$$

3) $2\log_4 (x+1) = \log_4 (11-x)$

$$\log_4 (x+1)^2 = \log_4 (11-x)$$

$$x^2 + 2x + 1 = 11 - x$$

$$x^2 + 3x - 10 = 0$$

$$(x+5)(x-2) = 0$$

$$x = -5, 2$$

4) $2\log_2 x - \log_2 2 = 3$

$$\log_2 x^2 - \log_2 2 = 3$$

$$\log_2 \frac{x^2}{2} = 3$$

$$2^3 = \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$16 = x^2$$

$$4 = x$$

You try ☺

5) $\log_6 (a^2 + 2) + \log_6 2 = 2$

$$\log_6 2(a^2 + 2) = 2$$

$$6^2 = 2a^2 + 4$$

$$32 = 2a^2$$

$$16 = a^2$$

$$\pm 4 = a$$

6) $\log_3 5 = \log_3 x + \log_3 3$

$$\log_3 5 = \log_3 (3x)$$

$$5 = 3x$$

$$\frac{5}{3} = x$$