

Simplifying Rational Expressions

Check for understanding:Which three of the rational expression **cannot** be simplified.

$$\frac{2x^2 + 8x}{x + 4}$$

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

$$\frac{2x - 4}{2x - 4}$$

$$\frac{15}{7}$$

$$\frac{2x - 4}{2x - 5}$$

$$\frac{x^2 + 7x + 10}{x^2 - 25}$$

Practice: C-Level

1. $\frac{2x^2 + 8x}{x + 4}$	2. $\frac{4x^2 - 12x}{x - 3}$	3. $\frac{2x^2 + 10x}{x + 5}$
4. $\frac{5x^3 + 10x^2}{20x^2}$	5. $\frac{x^2 + x}{x^2 - 1}$	6. $\frac{2x^4 + 8x^3}{3x + 12}$
7. $\frac{x^2 + 7x + 6}{x^2 - 1}$	8. $\frac{x^2 + 4x + 3}{x^2 - 9}$	9. $\frac{x^2 + 5x + 4}{x^2 - 16}$

10. $\frac{x^2+8x+15}{x^2+x-6}$	11. $\frac{x^2+3x+2}{x^2+6x+5}$	12. $\frac{x^2+4x+3}{x^2+5x+6}$
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Practice B-Level

13. $\frac{2x^2-x-3}{2x^2-13x+15}$	14. $\frac{x^2-4}{5x^2+13x+6}$	15. $\frac{x^4-16}{x^2-3x-28}$
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<p>Looking back:</p> $\frac{3}{7} \cdot \frac{2}{5} =$ $\frac{3}{11} + \frac{4}{11} =$ $\frac{1}{5} + \frac{3}{4} =$ $\frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{6} =$	<p>Looking ahead: Multiply and simplify</p> $\frac{3x+12}{x^2} \cdot \frac{x}{x+4}$
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