

Complex Fractions

* Solving Rational Equations

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{2}{3}}{\frac{1}{5} + \frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\frac{3}{6} + \frac{4}{6}}{\frac{2}{10} + \frac{5}{10}} = \frac{\frac{7}{6}}{\frac{7}{10}} = \frac{7}{6} \cdot \frac{10}{7} = \frac{5}{3}$$

$$\frac{\frac{(x-2)x}{(x-2)x+2} - \frac{3(x+2)}{x-2(x+2)}}{\frac{(x+5)3x}{(x+5)x-2} - \frac{x+2(x-2)}{x+3(x-2)}} = \frac{\frac{x^2-2x-3x-6}{(x+2)(x-2)}}{\frac{3x^2+9x+(-x^2+4)}{(x-2)(x+3)}} = \frac{x^2-5x-6}{(x+2)(x-2)}$$

$$= \frac{x^2-5x-6}{(x+2)(x-2)} \cdot \frac{(x-2)(x+3)}{2x^2+9x+4}$$

$$= \frac{(x-6)(x+1)}{(x+2)\cancel{(x-2)}} \cdot \frac{\cancel{(x-2)}(x+3)}{(2x+1)(x+4)}$$

$$= \frac{(x-6)(x+1)(x+3)}{(x+2)(2x+1)(x+4)}$$

SOLVING Rational Equations

Simplify

- * Answer: Expression with variables
- * No = Sign
- * Make + Keep common denoms; factor + cancel

$$\overset{21}{\boxed{\frac{x}{3} + \frac{x}{7} = 2}}$$

$$7x + 3x = 42$$

$$\frac{10x}{10} = \frac{42}{10}$$

$$x = \frac{21}{5}$$

Solving

- * Answer: $x = \#$'s
- * Have an = sign

- * Multiply by the common denominator + cancel all the denominators!

$$\frac{x+5}{x^3+x^2} - \frac{2}{x^2-2x} = \frac{-3}{x^2-x-2}$$

$$\frac{x+5}{x^2(x+1)} - \frac{2}{x(x-2)} = \frac{-3}{(x-2)(x+1)}$$

$$(x-2)(x+5) - 2x(x+1) = -3x^2$$

$$x^2 + 5x - 2x - 10 - 2x^2 - 2x = -3x^2$$

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

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

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

$$x = -5/2 \quad x = 2$$

extraneous solution

1) Factor the denominators!

2) Check for excluded values.
 $x \neq 0, -1, 2$

3) Multiply by the common denom & cancel all the denoms!

4) Write down remaining terms!

5) Multiply & combine like terms

6) Set = to 0 & solve.

7) Check for excluded values!

Solve

$$\frac{(w-4)}{(w+1)} \left[w + \frac{w+7}{\frac{w^2-3w-4}{(w-4)(w+1)}} = \frac{w^2}{w-4} \right] \quad w \neq 4, -1$$

$$w \frac{(w-4)(w+1)}{w^2-3w-4} + w+7 = w^2(w+1)$$

$$w^3 - 3w^2 - 4w + w + 7 = w^3 + w^2$$

$$-w^3 - 3w^2 - 3w + 7 = -w^3 + w^2$$

$$0 = 4w^2 + 3w - 7$$

$$0 = (4w + 7)(w - 1)$$

$$w = \frac{-7}{4}, 1$$