Rational Expressions and Equations Lesson #2: Simplifying Rational Expressions - Part Two

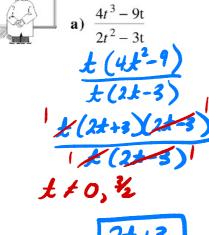
In this lesson, we extend the method of simplifying rational expression to more complex examples.

Recall that when we divide by an expression containing a variable, there are restrictions on the value which can be replaced for the variable. These are called nonpermissible values of the variable.

Recall also that reducing rational expressions involves cancelling factors but not terms.



Reduce to lowest terms, stating the restrictions on the variable.



b)
$$\frac{2x^2 + 5x - 3}{2x^2 + x - 1}$$
 c) $\frac{a^2 + 2a - 8}{a^4 - 20a^2 + 64}$ (a + 4) (a - 2) (a - 16) (a - 7) (



Express in simplest form, stating the values of the variable for which the expression is not defined.

$$\mathbf{a)} \ \frac{c-4}{4-c}$$

b)
$$\frac{2p^3 - 4p^2}{16 - 8p}$$

$$c) \ \frac{1 - 4x^2}{6x^2 - 5x - 4}$$

$$\frac{2\rho^{2}(\rho-2)}{8(2-\rho)}$$

$$6x - 6x + 3x - 7$$

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