

Dividing Polynomials

Order in which Division should be worked:

- 1) Divide
- 2) Multiply
- 3) Subtract
- 4) Bring down
- 5) Repeat

Example 1:

DIVIDE THIS POLYNOMIAL	$\frac{6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4}{3x + 2}$	
1) Divide	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \end{array}$	$6x^3 \div 3x = 2x^2$
2) Multiply	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \end{array}$	$2x^2(3x + 2) = 6x^3 + 4x^2$
3) Subtract	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{- (6x^3 + 4x^2)} \\ 3x^2 \end{array}$	$(6x^3 + 7x^2) - (6x^3 + 4x^2) = 3x^2$
4) Bring down	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 3x^2 - 4x \end{array}$	
1) Divide	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + x \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 3x^2 - 4x \end{array}$	$3x^2 \div 3x = x$
2) Multiply	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + x \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 3x^2 - 4x \\ 3x^2 + 2x \end{array}$	$x(3x + 2) = 3x^2 + 2x$
3) Subtract	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + x \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 3x^2 - 4x \\ \underline{-(3x^2 + 2x)} \\ - 6x \end{array}$	$(3x^2 - 4x) - (3x^2 + 2x) = -6x$
4) Bring down	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + x \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 3x^2 - 4x \\ 3x^2 + 2x \\ - 6x - 4 \end{array}$	
1) Divide	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + x - 2 \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 3x^2 - 4x \\ 3x^2 + 2x \\ - 6x - 4 \end{array}$	$-6x \div 3x = -2$
2) Multiply	$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 + x - 2 \\ \hline 3x + 2) 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{6x^3 + 4x^2} \\ 3x^2 - 4x \\ 3x^2 + 2x \\ - 6x - 4 \\ - 6x - 4 \end{array}$	$-2(3x + 2) = -6x - 4$

3) Subtract	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x^2 + x - 2}{3x + 2} \\ 6x^3 + 7x^2 - 4x - 4 \\ \underline{-} 6x^3 - 4x^2 \\ 3x^2 + 2x \\ \underline{-} 6x - 4 \\ \underline{\underline{-12x - 4}} \\ 0 \end{array} $	$(-6x - 4) - (-6x - 4) = 0$
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Example 2 (Remainder):

DIVIDE THIS POLYNOMIAL	$\frac{6x^2 - 2x + 8}{3x + 5}$	
1) Divide	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x}{3x + 5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \end{array} $	$6x^2 \div 3x = 2x$
2) Multiply	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x}{3x + 5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \\ \underline{6x^2 + 10x} \\ \underline{-12x + 8} \end{array} $	$2x(3x + 5) = 6x^2 + 10x$
3) Subtract	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x}{3x + 5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \\ \underline{-6x^2 - 10x} \\ \underline{-12x + 8} \end{array} $	$(6x^2 - 2x) - (6x^2 + 10x) = -12x$
4) Bring down	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x}{3x + 5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \\ \underline{6x^2 + 10x} \\ -12x + 8 \end{array} $	
1) Divide	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x - 4}{3x + 5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \\ \underline{6x^2 + 10x} \\ -12x + 8 \end{array} $	$-12x \div 3x = -4$
2) Multiply	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x - 4}{3x + 5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \\ \underline{6x^2 + 10x} \\ -12x + 8 \\ \underline{-12x - 20} \end{array} $	$-4(3x + 5) = -12x - 20$
3) Subtract	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x - 4}{3x + 5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \\ \underline{6x^2 + 10x} \\ -12x + 8 \\ \underline{-12x - 20} \\ 28 \end{array} $	$(-12x + 8) - (-12x - 20) = 28$
Write remainder as a fraction	$ \begin{array}{r} \frac{2x - 4 + \frac{28}{3x+5}}{3x+5} \\ 6x^2 - 2x + 8 \\ \underline{6x^2 + 10x} \\ -12x + 8 \\ \underline{-12x - 20} \\ 28 \end{array} $	Remainder 28 = $\frac{28}{3x+5}$



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Example 3 (Missing terms):

DIVIDE THIS POLYNOMIAL	$\frac{5x^3 - 2x^2 - 6}{x - 1}$	
Insert Missing Terms	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$	0x
1) Divide	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$	$5x^3 \div x = 5x^2$
2) Multiply	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2} \leftarrow$	$5x^2(x - 1) = 5x^3 - 5x^2$
3) Subtract	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{- (5x^3 - 5x^2)}$ $3x^2 \leftarrow$	$(5x^3 - 2x^2) - (5x^3 - 5x^2) = 3x^2$
4) Bring down	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2}$ $3x^2 + 0x$	
1) Divide	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2}$ $3x^2 + 0x$	$3x^2 \div x = 3x$
2) Multiply	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2}$ $3x^2 + 0x$ $3x^2 - 3x \leftarrow$	$3x(x - 1) = 3x^2 - 3x$
3) Subtract	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2}$ $3x^2 + 0x$ $\underline{- (3x^2 - 3x)}$ $3x \leftarrow$	$(3x^2 + 0x) - (3x^2 - 3x) = 3x$
4) Bring down	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2}$ $3x^2 + 0x$ $\underline{3x^2 - 3x}$ $3x - 6$	
1) Divide	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2}$ $3x^2 + 0x$ $\underline{3x^2 - 3x}$ $3x - 6$	$3x \div x = 3$
2) Multiply	$x - 1 \overline{) 5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6}$ $\underline{5x^3 - 5x^2}$ $3x^2 + 0x$ $\underline{3x^2 - 3x}$ $3x - 6$	$3(x - 1) = 3x - 3$

3) Subtract	$ \begin{array}{r} \underline{5x^2 + 3x + 3} \\ x - 1) \underline{5x^3 - 2x^2 + 0x - 6} \\ \underline{5x^3 - 5x^2} \\ \underline{3x^2 + 0x} \\ \underline{3x^2 - 3x} \\ \underline{\underline{3x - 6}} \\ \underline{-(3x - 3)} \\ \underline{\underline{-3}} \end{array} $	$(3x - 6) - (3x - 3) = -3$
Write remainder as a fraction	$ 5x^2 + 3x + 3 + \frac{-3}{x - 1} $	Remainder $-3 = \frac{-3}{x - 1}$

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