

4.6 Solving Logarithmic Equations



$$48.) \log 3^{x+4} = \log 6^{2x-5}$$

$$(x+4)\log 3 = (2x-5)\log 6$$

$$x\log 3 + 4\log 3 = 2x\log 6 - 5\log 6$$

$$x\log 3 - 2x\log 6 = -4\log 3 - 5\log 6$$

$$x(\log 3 - 2\log 6) = \frac{-4\log 3 - 5\log 6}{\log 3 - \log 36}$$

$$x = 5.374$$

$$\downarrow \log \frac{1}{12}$$

$$23.) \quad \frac{3}{4} e^{2x} + \frac{7}{2} = 4 - \frac{7}{2}$$

$$\frac{\cancel{\frac{3}{4}} e^{2x}}{\cancel{3/4}} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}}{\frac{3}{4}}$$

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

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

$$-.203 \quad x = \frac{\ln \frac{2}{3}}{2}$$

$$17.) \quad 4e^{-2x} = 17$$

$$\ln e^{-2x} = \ln \frac{17}{4}$$

$$-2x = \ln \frac{17}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{\ln \frac{17}{4}}{-2}$$

REVIEW: Evaluate.

a) $\log_3\left(\frac{1}{9}\right) = -2$

b) $\frac{\log 36}{\log 6} = \log_6 36 = 2$

c) $\log_8(-8)$ \emptyset (undefined)

d) $\log 0$

Domain of Logarithmic Functions

$$y = \log_b(f(x))$$

Domain: $f(x) > 0$

ex: State the domain in set notation.

a) $y = \log_2(x - 1)$

$$x - 1 > 0$$

$$\{x | x > 1\}$$

Set the "argument" of the $\log > 0$

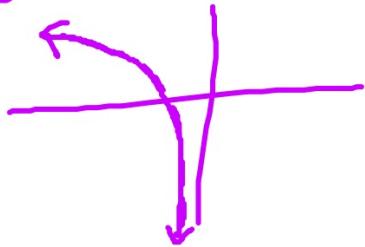
ex: State the domain in set notation.

b) $y = 3 - \ln(-x)$

$$\begin{aligned} -x &> 0 \\ \{x \mid x < 0\} \end{aligned}$$

c) $y = \log_9(x^2 + 9)$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + 9 &> 0 \\ \{x \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\} \end{aligned}$$

$$y = \log(-x)$$


Solving Logarithmic Equations

Three Types:

1. 1 Logarithm

$$\text{ex: } 2 - \log_2(x + 1) = 4$$

2. More than 1 Logarithm

$$\text{ex: } \log_3(x^2 - 3) = \log_3 2 + \log_3 x$$

3. Quadratic Form

When solving type 1 or 2, rewrite the equation with ONE TERM on each side of the equation.

ex: Solve.

a) ~~$\log_{36}x + \frac{1}{2} = 2$~~

$$3\log_{36}x + \frac{3}{2} = 6$$

$$\log_{36}x = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$36^{\frac{3}{2}} = x$$

$$216 = x$$

$$\log_{36}x = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$36$$

$$36^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$X = 36$$

$$X = 216$$

ex: Solve.

$$\log_{12}(x^2 - 4) = \log_{12}(3x)$$

12 12

$$x^2 - 4 = 3x$$

$$x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$$

$$(x-4)(x+1) = 0$$

$$\textcircled{x=4} \times$$

ex: Solve.

$$\textcircled{c} \log_{31}(4x-5) - \log_{31}(2x-1) = 0$$

$$\frac{\log_{31}(4x-5)}{31} = \log_{31}(2x-1)$$

$$4x-5 = 2x-1$$

$$x = 2$$

ex: Solve.

d) $\log_2(4x-5) - \log_2(2x-1) = 3$

condense

$$\cancel{2} \log_2 \frac{4x-5}{2x-1} = 3$$

$$\frac{4x-5}{2x-1} = \frac{8}{1} \quad \cancel{\textcircled{1}}$$

$$4x-5 = 16x-8$$

$$\cancel{x = \frac{1}{4}}$$

ex: Solve.

e) $\log 18 - \log 3x = \log 2$

$$\log \frac{18}{3x} = \log 2$$

$$\frac{18}{3x} = 2$$

$$6x = 18$$

$$x = 3$$

ex: Solve.

f) $\frac{\ln(-x)}{2} + 4 = 5$

"e"

$$e^{\ln(-x)} = e^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}-x &= e^2 \\ x &= -e^2\end{aligned}$$

ex: Solve.

g) $2 \log x = \log 2 + \log 8$

$$\log x^2 = \log 16$$

$$x^2 = 16$$

$$x = \pm 4$$

$$x = 4$$

ex: Solve.

h) $\log_5 \sqrt{x-2} = 1$

$$\sqrt{x-2} = 5$$

$$x-2 = 25$$

$$x = 27$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \log_5(x-2) = 1$$

$$\log_5(x-2) = 2$$

$$x-2 = 25$$

$$x = 27$$

ex: Solve.

i) $3\log_x 49 - 2 = 4$

base
 $x: x > 1$
but $x \neq 1$

$$\log_x 49 = 2$$

$$x^2 = 49$$

$$x = \pm 7$$

$$x = 7$$

ex: Solve.

$$j) (\log_2 x)^2 - 4(\log_2 x) - 5 = 0 \quad u = \log_2 x$$

$$u^2 - 4u - 5 = 0$$

$$(u - 5)(u + 1) = 0$$

$$(\log_2 x - 5)(\log_2 x + 1) = 0$$

$$\log_2 x = 5 \quad \log_2 x = -1$$

$$x = 32$$

$$2^{-1} = x$$

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

ex: Solve.

k) $27^x \log_5(x-3) - 9 \log_5(x-3) = 0$

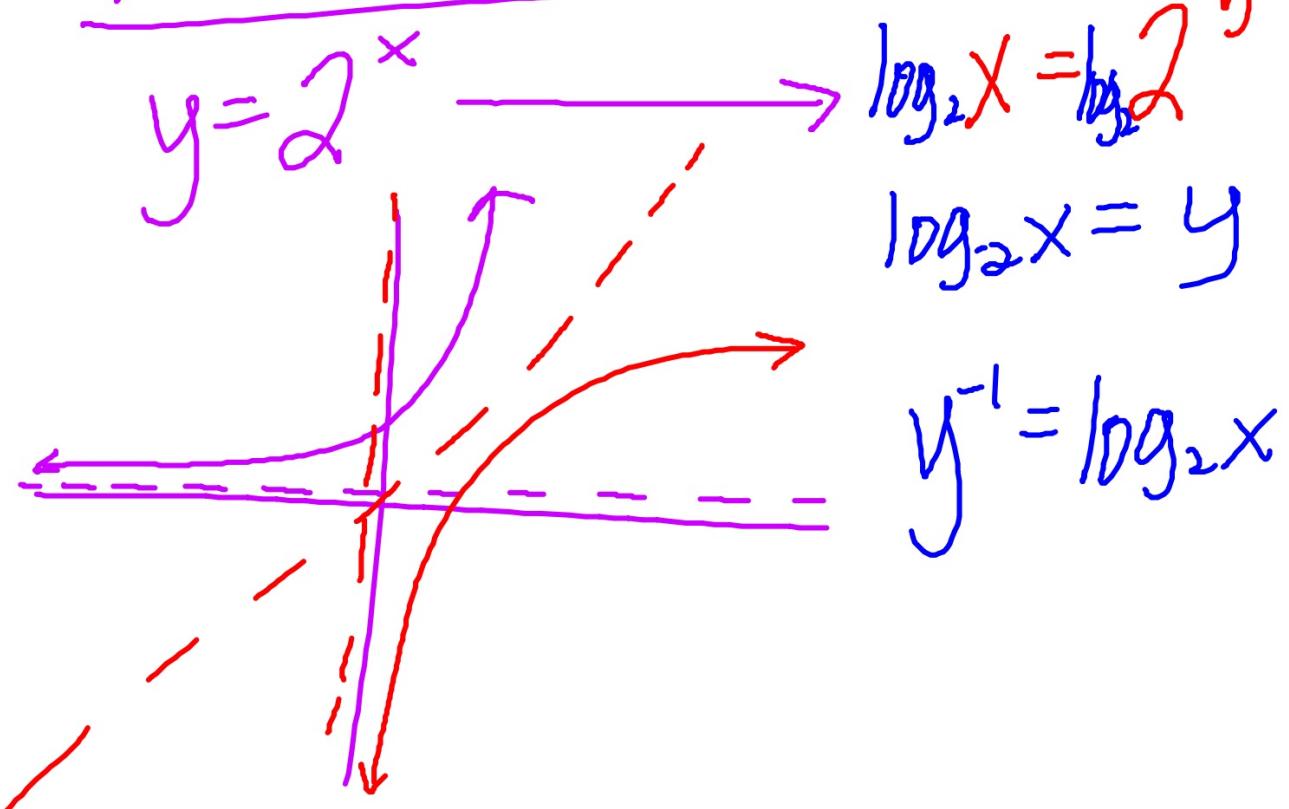
$$(\log_5(x-3))(27^x - 9) = 0$$

$$\cancel{\log_5(x-3)} = 0 \quad 27^x - 9 = 0$$

$$\cancel{5} \quad 27^x = 9$$
$$\cancel{x-3} \quad 3^{3x} = 3^2$$

$$x-3 = 1$$
$$x = 4$$

Find the inverse



$$a.) f(x) = 2 \cdot 3^{x-1} + 1$$

$$x = 2 \cdot 3^{y-1} + 1$$

$$\log_3 \frac{x-1}{2} = \log_3 3^{y-1}$$

$$\log_3 \frac{x-1}{2} = y - 1$$

$$\log_3 \frac{x-1}{2} + 1 = f^{-1}(x)$$

$$b) g(x) = 2 \log_4(x+5) - 4$$

$$x = 2 \log_4(y+5) - 4$$

$$\frac{x+4}{2} = \log_4(y+5)$$

$$4^{\frac{x+4}{2}} - 5 = g^{-1}(x)$$