



Vocabulary: Operations with Radical Expressions



Vocabulary

- Perfect square – a number that is equal to an integer squared.
 - To *square* a number means to multiply it by itself.
 - For example, 25 is a perfect square because $5 \cdot 5 = 5^2 = 25$.
- Radical expression – an expression that contains a root.
 - The *radical sign* $\sqrt{\quad}$ indicates a square root, which is the inverse of squaring.
 - The number or expression under the radical sign is called the *radicand*.
 - For example, in the radical expression $\sqrt{4x^2}$, the $4x^2$ is the radicand.
- Square root – a number or expression which, when squared, gives the original number or expression.
 - For example, the square root of 9 is 3 (in other words, $\sqrt{9} = 3$) because $3^2 = 9$.
 - Generally, the *radical sign* $\sqrt{\quad}$ indicates the positive or *principal square root*.

