

5.3 Radical Equations

Radical equations: equations where the variable is in the radicand.

Restrictions

1. $\sqrt{2x-10}$

$$2x-10 \geq 0$$

$$2x \geq 10$$

$$x \geq 5$$

2. $\sqrt{3x+17}$

$$3x+17 \geq 0$$

$$3x \geq -17$$

$$x \geq -\frac{17}{3}$$

Solving equations

1. $5 + \sqrt{2x-1} = 12$

Restriction

$$2x-1 \geq 0$$

$$2x \geq 1$$

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

$$5 + \sqrt{2x-1} = 12$$
$$\left(\sqrt{2x-1}\right)^2 = (7)^2$$

$$2x-1 = 49$$

$$2x = 50$$

$$x = 25$$

$$2. \quad n - \sqrt{5-n} = -7$$

$$5-n \geq 0$$

$$-n \geq -5$$

$$n \leq 5$$

$$n+7 = \sqrt{5-n}$$

$$(n+7)^2 = (\sqrt{5-n})^2$$

$$n^2 + 14n + 49 = 5 - n$$

$$n^2 + 15n + 44 = 0$$

factor or quad. formula

$$\begin{array}{r} \text{add} = 15 \\ \text{mult} = 44 \\ \hline 4 \quad 11 \end{array}$$

$$(n+11)(n+4) = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} n+11=0 \\ n=-11 \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} n+4=0 \\ n=-4 \end{array}$$

Check:

$$n - \sqrt{5-n} = -7$$

$$\boxed{n = -11}$$

$$-11 - \sqrt{5-(-11)} = -7$$

$$-11 - \sqrt{16} = -7$$

$$-11 - 4 \neq -7$$

$$\boxed{n = -4}$$

$$-4 - \sqrt{5-(-4)} = -7$$

$$-4 - \sqrt{9} = -7$$

$$-4 - 3 = -7$$

$$\boxed{n = -4}$$

$$3. \quad 7 + \sqrt{3x} = \sqrt{5x+4} + 5, \quad x \geq 0$$

$$(2 + \sqrt{3x})^2 = (\sqrt{5x+4})^2$$

$$4 + 4\sqrt{3x} + 3x = 5x + 4$$

$$(4\sqrt{3x})^2 = (2x)^2$$

$$16 \cdot 3x$$

$$48x = 4x^2$$

$$12x = x^2$$

$$0 = x^2 - 12x \quad \text{G.C.F}$$

$$x(x-12) = 0$$

$$x=0 \quad \begin{cases} x-12=0 \\ x=12 \end{cases}$$

$$(2 + \sqrt{3x})(2 + \sqrt{3x})$$

$$2(2 + \sqrt{3x}) + \sqrt{3x}(2 + \sqrt{3x})$$

$$4 + 2\sqrt{3x} + 2\sqrt{3x} + 3x$$

$$4 + 4\sqrt{3x} + 3x$$

Check both, they both work!

Practice pg. 300

4c, 6a,b, 7d, 10a,c