

**Integrated Math 3**  
**Chapter 6 Section 4 Study Guide and Intervention**  
**Common Logarithms**

**Common Logarithms** Base 10 logarithms are called **common logarithms**. The expression  $\log_{10} x$  is usually written without the subscript as  $\log x$ . Use the **LOG** key on your calculator to evaluate common logarithms. The relation between exponents and logarithms gives the following identity.

<b>Inverse Property of Logarithms and Exponents</b>	$10^{\log x} = x$
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**Example 1: Evaluate  $\log 50$  to the nearest ten-thousandth.**

Use the **LOG** key on your calculator. To four decimal places,  $\log 50 = 1.6990$ .

**Example 2: Solve  $3^{2x+1} = 12$ .**

$$3^{2x+1} = 12 \quad \text{Original equation}$$

$$\log 3^{2x+1} = \log 12 \quad \text{Property of Equality for Logarithmic Functions}$$

$$(2x+1) \log 3 = \log 12 \quad \text{Power Property of Logarithms}$$

$$2x+1 = \frac{\log 12}{\log 3} \quad \text{Divide each side by } \log 3.$$

$$2x = \frac{\log 12}{\log 3} - 1 \quad \text{Subtract 1 from each side.}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\log 12}{\log 3} - 1 \right) \quad \text{Multiply each side by } \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$x \approx \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1.0792}{0.4771} - 1 \right) \quad \text{Use a calculator.}$$

$$x \approx 0.6309$$

**Exercises**

Use a calculator to evaluate each expression to the nearest ten-thousandth.

1.  $\log 18$

2.  $\log 39$

3.  $\log 120$

4.  $\log 5.8$

5.  $\log 42.3$

6.  $\log 0.003$

Solve each equation or inequality. Round to the nearest ten-thousandth.

7.  $4^{3x} = 12$

8.  $6^{x+2} = 18$

9.  $5^{4x-2} = 120$

10.  $7^{3x-1} \geq 21$

11.  $2.4^{x+4} = 30$

12.  $6.5^{2x} \geq 200$

13.  $3.6^{4x-1} = 85.4$

14.  $2^{x+5} = 3^{x-2}$

15.  $9^{3x} = 4^{5x+2}$

16.  $6^{x-5} = 2^{7x+3}$

**Integrated Math 3****Chapter 6 Section 4 Study Guide and Intervention** *(continued)***Common Logarithms**

**Change of Base Formula** The following formula is used to change expressions with different logarithmic bases to common logarithm expressions.

<b>Change of Base Formula</b>	For all positive numbers $a$ , $b$ , and $n$ , where $a \neq 1$ and $b \neq 1$ , $\log_a n = \frac{\log_b n}{\log_b a}$ .
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**Example:** Express  $\log_8 15$  in terms of common logarithms. Then round to the nearest ten-thousandth.

$$\log_8 15 = \frac{\log_{10} 15}{\log_{10} 8} \quad \text{Change of Base Formula}$$

$$\approx 1.3023 \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

The value of  $\log_8 15$  is approximately 1.3023.

**Exercises**

**Express each logarithm in terms of common logarithms. Then approximate its value to the nearest ten-thousandth.**

1.  $\log_3 16$

2.  $\log_2 40$

3.  $\log_5 35$

4.  $\log_4 22$

5.  $\log_{12} 200$

6.  $\log_2 50$

7.  $\log_5 0.4$

8.  $\log_3 2$

9.  $\log_4 28.5$

10.  $\log_3 (20)^2$

11.  $\log_6 (5)^4$

12.  $\log_8 (4)^5$

13.  $\log_5 (8)^3$

14.  $\log_2 (3.6)^6$

15.  $\log_{12} (10.5)^4$

16.  $\log_3 \sqrt{150}$

17.  $\log_4 \sqrt[3]{39}$

18.  $\log_5 \sqrt[4]{1600}$