

1-2 Order of Operations (Pages 11–15)

Numerical and algebraic expressions often contain more than one operation. A rule is needed to let you know which operation to perform first. The rule is called the **order of operations**.

Order of Operations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Simplify the expressions inside grouping symbols, such as parentheses (), brackets [], and braces { }, and as indicated by fraction bars. 2. Evaluate all powers. 3. Do all multiplications and divisions from left to right. 4. Do all additions and subtractions from left to right.
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Examples Evaluate each expression.

a. $15 + 3 \cdot 21$

$$15 + 3 \cdot 21 = 15 + 63 \quad \text{Multiply 3 by 21.}$$

$$= 78 \quad \text{Add 15 and 63.}$$

b. $\frac{8 + 2^3}{(3 + 1) \cdot 2}$

Since this expression is a fraction, the numerator and denominator should each be treated as a single value. Think of the expression as $(8 + 2^3) \div [(3 + 1) \cdot 2]$.

$$(8 + 2^3) \div [(3 + 1) \cdot 2]$$

$$= (8 + 8) \div [4 \cdot 2] \quad \text{Evaluate } 2^3; \text{ add 3 and 1.}$$

$$= 16 \div 8 \quad \text{Add 8 and 8; multiply 4 and 2.}$$

$$= 2 \quad \text{Divide 16 by 8.}$$

Try These Together

Evaluate each expression.

1. $7 \cdot 2 + 1$

2. $2 + 3^2 \cdot 4 - 1$

3. $3(8 + 2) \div 5 - 4$

HINT: Refer to the order of operations above to help you remember which operations to perform first.

Practice

Evaluate each expression.

4. $\frac{8}{4} + 3$

5. $12 - 6 + 2 \cdot 3$

6. $2(3 + 5) - 4$

7. $15(2) - 6$

8. $60 - (13 + 5)$

9. $6 + 2(3)$

10. $2[2(2 + 2)] + 1$

11. $(15)(3)^2 + (4 - 2)$

12. $2(1.5 + 2.5) + 7$

13. $\frac{3(2^2) + 2(3^2)}{4}$

14. $\frac{17 + 3^3 - 4(2)}{2}$

15. $80 - (20 + 5)$

Evaluate each expression if $x = 5$, $y = 1$, and $z = 3$.

16. $(x + 5)(y + z)$

17. $x(xy + z)$

18. $2(x + y) + z$

19. **Standardized Test Practice** Evaluate the expression $2 + (3 + 4)2 + 6 - 5(2)$.

A 10

B 11

C 12

D 13

Answers: 1. 15 2. 37 3. 2 4. 5 5. 12 6. 12 7. 24 8. 42 9. 12 10. 17 11. 137 12. 15 13. $7\frac{1}{4}$ 14. 18 15. 55 16. 40 17. 40 18. 15 19. C