



Timester Challenge

Rationalising Surds



Rationalise $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$ Bronze ★	Rationalise the denominator and simplify $\frac{7}{4\sqrt{3}}$ Silver ★	Simplify $\frac{3\sqrt{5}}{2 + \sqrt{5}}$ Gold ★
Express $\frac{9}{\sqrt{3}}$ in the form $a\sqrt{b}$, where a and b are positive integers. Bronze ★	Write $\frac{\sqrt{50+6}}{\sqrt{2}}$ in the form of $a + b\sqrt{2}$, where a and b are integers. Silver ★	Show that $\frac{6+2\sqrt{3}}{2-\sqrt{3}}$ can be simplified to $18 + 10\sqrt{3}$. Gold ★



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Answers



<p>Rationalise $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}$</p> $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}}$ $= \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}$ <p>Bronze ★</p>	<p>Rationalise the denominator and simplify</p> $\frac{7}{4\sqrt{3}}$ $\frac{7}{4\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{7\sqrt{3}}{4 \times 3} = \frac{7\sqrt{3}}{12}$ <p>Silver ★</p>	<p>Simplify</p> $\frac{3\sqrt{5}}{2 + \sqrt{5}}$ $\frac{3\sqrt{5}}{(2 + \sqrt{5})} \times \frac{(2 - \sqrt{5})}{(2 - \sqrt{5})} = \frac{6\sqrt{5} - 3 \times 5}{4 - 5}$ $= \frac{6\sqrt{5} - 15}{-1} = 15 - 6\sqrt{5}$ <p>Gold ★</p>
<p>Express $\frac{9}{\sqrt{3}}$ in the form $a\sqrt{b}$, where a and b are positive integers.</p> $\frac{9}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}$ $= \frac{9\sqrt{3}}{3} = 3\sqrt{3}$ <p>Bronze ★</p>	<p>Write $\frac{\sqrt{50+6}}{\sqrt{2}}$ in the form of $a + b\sqrt{2}$, where a and b are integers.</p> $\frac{\sqrt{50+6}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{100+6\sqrt{2}}}{2}$ $= \frac{10 + 6\sqrt{2}}{2} = 5 + 3\sqrt{2}$ <p>Silver ★</p>	<p>Show that $\frac{6+2\sqrt{3}}{2-\sqrt{3}}$ can be simplified to $18 + 10\sqrt{3}$.</p> $\frac{(6+2\sqrt{3})}{(2-\sqrt{3})} \times \frac{(2+\sqrt{3})}{(2+\sqrt{3})}$ $= \frac{12 + 4\sqrt{3} + 6\sqrt{3} + 2 \times 3}{4 - 3}$ $= \frac{18 + 10\sqrt{3}}{1} = 18 + 10\sqrt{3}$ <p>Gold ★</p>