

PRE-CALCULUS: by Finney, Demana, Watts and Kennedy  
 Chapter 3: Exponential, Logistic, and Logarithmic Functions  
 3.3: Logarithmic Functions and their graphs

What you'll Learn About

Switch  $x$  and  $y$

$$y = 3x + 2$$

$$x = 3y + 2$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x-2}{3}$$

Changing between Logarithmic and exponential form:

If  $x > 0$ ,  $b > 0$  and  $b \neq 1$ , then  $y = \log_b x$  if and only if  $b^y = x$

Properties:

If  $x > 0$ ,  $b > 0$ ,  $b \neq 1$ , and any real number  $y$

- $\log_b 1 = 0$  because  $b^0 = 1$
- $\log_b b = 1$  because  $b^1 = b$
- $\log_b b^y = y$  because  $b^y = b^y$
- $b^{\log_b x} = x$  because

$$\log_b x = \log_b y$$

Find the inverse function for  $y = 2^x$

Inverses of each other  
 $x = 2^y$

$$y = \log_2 x$$

Read "log base 2 of  $x$ "

$$x = b^y \Leftrightarrow y = \log_b x$$

Evaluate the logarithmic expression without using a calculator

a)  $\log_2 8 = 3$

$$2^x = 8$$

b)  $\log_3 \sqrt{3} = \frac{1}{2}$

$$3^x = \sqrt{3}$$

$$3^x = 3^{1/2}$$

c)  $\log_5 \frac{1}{25} = -2$

$$5^x = \frac{1}{25}$$

$$5^x = \frac{1}{5^2} = 5^{-2}$$

d)  $\log_4 1 = 0$

$$4^x = 1$$

$$x = 0$$

e)  $\log_7 7 = 1$

$$7^x = 7$$



Use a calculator to evaluate the logarithmic expression if it is defined and check your result by evaluating the corresponding exponential expression

a)  $\log 34.5 = 1.538$       b)  $\log 0.43 = -.367$       c)  $\log(-3) = \text{Undefined}$

$$10^{1.538} = 34.5$$

$$10^x = .43$$
$$= \frac{43}{100}$$

$$10^x = -3$$

$$10^{-1} = \frac{1}{10} = .1$$

$$10^{-2} = \frac{1}{100} = .01$$

$$10^{-3} = \frac{1}{1000} = .001$$

d)  $\ln 23.5 = 3.157$

e)  $\ln 0.48 =$

$$-.734$$

f)  $\ln(-5) =$

Undefined

Solve the equation

a)  $\log x = 3$

$$10^3 = x$$

$$x = 1000$$

b)  $\log_2 x = 5$

$$2^5 = x$$

$$x = 32$$