

M9 - 5.2 - Combining Like Terms Notes

Adding and Subtracting Like Terms:

$$x + x = \textcircled{2x} \quad 3y + 2y = \textcircled{5y} \quad x^2 + x^2 = \textcircled{2x^2} \quad -9xy + 7xy = \textcircled{-2xy}$$

Add/Subtract Coefficients.

Combine Like Terms

$$2 + x + 3 =$$

$$x + 2 + 3$$

Rearrange Order of Terms

$$\textcircled{x + 5}$$

Combine Like Terms

$$3x + 1 - x =$$

$$3x - x + 1$$

$$\textcircled{2x + 1}$$

Rearrange Coefficient!
Combine

Subtract Coefficients

$$\boxed{3x - 1x = 2x}$$

$$3 - 1 = 2$$

$$3 + x^2 + 2x - 1 + 3x^2 + x =$$

$$x^2 + 3x^2 + 2x + x + 3 - 1$$

Rearrange Order of Terms

Combine Like Terms

Highest to Lowest Degree

ie. $x^2 + \#x + \# \dots$

$$\textcircled{4x^2 + 3x + 2}$$

$$x + 3x^2 = 4x^2 \quad -2x + x = -1x \quad 3 - 1 = 2$$

Combine Like Terms

$$\textcircled{5} - x + \textcircled{2} =$$

Circle Like Terms

Remember to Circle the Sign!

$$\textcircled{7} - x$$

$$5 + 2 = 7$$

$$\textcircled{2x} - 3 + \textcircled{3x} =$$

Do like term addition and subtraction off to the right.

$$\textcircled{5x} - 3$$

$$2x + 3x = 5x \quad 2 + 3 = 5$$

$$\textcircled{-2x} + \textcircled{3} - \textcircled{x} =$$

$$-2x - x = -3x$$

$$-2 - 1 = -3$$

Add Coefficients

$$\textcircled{5x} \boxed{-2} \textcircled{-2x} \boxed{+3} =$$

Square Like Terms

$$3x + 1$$

$$5 - 2 = 3$$

$$5x - 2x = 3x$$

$$\textcircled{-3} \boxed{-2x} \textcircled{+1} \boxed{+6x} =$$

$$-2x + 6x = 4x$$

$$-2 + 6 = 4$$

$$x^2 + 3x - 2x^2 - 1 - 2x =$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \textcircled{x^2} + 3x - 2x^2 - 1 - 2x \\ \cancel{\textcircled{x^2}} + \cancel{3x} - \cancel{2x^2} - \cancel{1} - \cancel{2x} \\ -x^2 + x - 1 \end{array}$$

Cloud Like Terms

$$x^2 - 2x^2 = -x^2$$

$$1 - 2 = -1$$

$$3x - 2x = 1x$$

$$3 - 2 = 1$$

$$-1 = -1$$

Remember to cross off terms you have dealt with.

$$5xy + 2yx = 7xy$$

$$xy = yx$$

They are the same

$$5 + 2 = 7$$

$$x^2y^3 = y^3x^2$$

$$3x^2y^3 - 5y^3x^2 = -2x^2y^3$$

$$3 - 5 = -2$$