

Step 3: Power Rule and simplify:

$$x + 6 = \ln(4)$$

Step 4: Solve for x

$$x = \ln(4) - 6$$

## Logarithmic Equations

Obj 3: Solve Logarithmic Equations by using the definition of logarithm.

Recall:

$$\log_{\underset{\text{base}}{b}} \overset{\text{quantity}}{\boxed{M}} = \overset{\text{exponent}}{\boxed{c}} \rightarrow M = b^c$$

E.g. Solve:

$$\log_4(x + 3) = 2$$

Step 1: Rewrite to exponential form using definition of logarithm.

$$x + 3 = 4^2 = 16$$

Step 2: Solve for  $x$ .

$$x = 13.$$

E.g. Solve:

$$10 \cdot \log_2(x-4) + 17 = 47$$

Step 1: Isolate the logarithm.

$$10 \cdot \log_2(x-4) = 30$$

$$\log_{\boxed{2}}(x-4) = \boxed{3}$$

base                      exponent

Step 2: Apply the definition of logarithm to rewrite:

$$x - 4 = 2^3 = 8$$

$$x = 12 \text{ (solve for } x \text{)}$$

Obj 4: Solve logarithmic Equations using properties of logarithm.

E.g. Solve  $\log_2 x + \log_2(x-7) = 3$

Step 1: Use properties of logarithm to obtain a single logarithm.

Product Rule:

$$\log_2 [x \cdot (x-7)] = 3$$

$$\log_{\text{base } 2} [x^2 - 7x] = \text{exponent } 3$$

Step 2: Rewrite to exponential form using definition of logarithm

$$x^2 - 7x = 2^3$$

$$x^2 - 7x = 8$$

Step 3: Solve for  $x$ .

$$x^2 - 7x - 8 = 0 \quad (\text{Subtract } 8)$$

$$(x-8)(x+1) = 0$$

$$x = 8 \quad ; \quad x = -1.$$

### Step 4: Check answers

Check:  $x=8$  :  $\log_2 8 + \log_2 (8-7) \stackrel{?}{=} 3$

↓  
a solution

$$3 + \log_2 1 \stackrel{?}{=} 3$$

$$3 + 0 \stackrel{?}{=} 3 \quad \text{True}$$

Check  ~~$x=-1$~~  :  ~~$\log_2(-1) + \log_2(-1-7) \stackrel{?}{=} 3$~~

Not a solution

False

cannot have negative numbers  
in log