Study Guide and Intervention

Powers and Exponents

A product of prime factors can be written using exponents and a base. Numbers expressed using exponents are called **powers**.

Powers	Words	Expression	Value
42	4 to the second power or 4 squared	4 × 4	16
5 ⁶	5 to the sixth power	$5 \times 5 \times 5 \times 5 \times 5 \times 5$	15,625
74	7 to the fourth power	$7 \times 7 \times 7 \times 7$	2,401
93	9 to the third power or 9 cubed	$9 \times 9 \times 9$	729

Example 1

Write $6 \times 6 \times 6$ using an exponent. Then find the value.

The base is 6. Since 6 is a factor 3 times, the exponent is 3. $6 \times 6 \times 6 = 6^3 \text{ or } 216$

Example 2 Write 2^4 as a product of the same factor. Then find the value.

The base is 2. The exponent is 4. So, 2 is a factor 4 times. $2^4 = 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$ or 16

Example 3 Write the prime factorization of 225 using exponents.

The prime factorization of 225 can be written as $3 \times 3 \times 5 \times 5$, or $3^2 \times 5^2$.

Exercises

Write each product using an exponent. Then find the value.

1.
$$2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 2$$

2.
$$9 \times 9$$

3.
$$3 \times 3 \times 3$$

4.
$$5 \times 5 \times 5$$

5.
$$3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 3$$

6.
$$10 \times 10$$

Write each power as a product of the same factor. Then find the value.

Write the prime factorization of each number using exponents.