

# Logarithms Formulae

## Logarithm:

Logarithm, the exponent or power to which a base must be raised to yield a given number. Expressed mathematically,  $x$  is the logarithm of  $n$  to the base  $a$  if  $a^x = n$ , in which case one writes  $x = \log_a n$

For example,  $2^3 = 8$ ; therefore, 3 is the logarithm of 8 to base 2, or  $3 = \log_2 8$ . In the same fashion, since  $10^2 = 100$ , then  $2 = \log_{10} 100$ .

Another way to understand this would be:

**If  $a^x = N$ , then  $x = \log_a N$**

Logarithm of a negative number or zero is not defined.

**Natural logarithm:** base of the number is "e"

**Common logarithm:** Base of the number is 10. When the base is not mentioned, it can be taken as 10.

## Properties of logarithm:

- $\log_a 1 = 0$
- $\log_a a = 1$
- $\log_a xy = \log_a x + \log_a y$
- $\log_a (X/Y) = \log_a X - \log_a Y$
- $\log_a b * \log_b a = 1$
- $b^{\log_b x} = x$
- $\log_a x = 1 / \log_x a$
- $\log_a b = \log_c b * \log_a c$
- $\log_a b^c = c * \log_a b$

- $x^{\log_b y} = y^{\log_b x}$
- $\log_a \sqrt[n]{b} = (\log_a b)/n$
- If  $0 < a < 1$ , then  $\log_a x < \log_a y$  (if  $x > y$ )
- If  $a > 1$  then  $\log_a x > \log_a y$  (if  $x > y$ )

**SOME POINTS TO REMEMBER:**

- $\log(x - y) \neq \log x - \log y$
- $\log(x + y) \neq \log x + \log y$

**log values of some numbers (base 10):**

Number	Value
1	0
2	0.301
3	0.4771
4	0.602
5	0.698
6	0.778
7	0.845
8	0.903
9	0.954



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