

15.3 Least Common Multiples and Denominators

❖ FINDING THE LEAST COMMON MULTIPLES

Recall: $\frac{2}{15} + \frac{7}{18}$

The **LCD** (the **least common denominator**) is the LCM of the denominators. It should contain all the factors of the denominators.

Ex. Find the LCM.

(a) $6x^3, 8x^5$

(b) $a^2 - 25, 3a^3 - 15a^2$

LCM: _____

LCM: _____

(c) $x^2 + 4x + 4, x^2 - 4$

(d) $x^5 + 2x^4 + x^3, 2x^3 - 2x, 5x - 5$

LCM: _____

LCM: _____