Simplifying Radicals

Perfect Square	Number is NOT a Perfect Square
List of Perfect Squares: If the problem contains a perfect square: • Find the square root • The square root would be an integer	 If the problem contains a number that is not a perfect square: Use the product of two square roots One of these roots should be a perfect square Find the square root of the perfect square, leave the other root as is.
Examples: 1) $\sqrt{25}$	Examples: 1) $\sqrt{12} = -1000000000000000000000000000000000000$
2) -\sqrt{144}	2) $\sqrt{32} = \sqrt{-1} \cdot \sqrt{-1}$
Exponent is even	Exponent is odd
If the problem contains an even exponent: • Divide the exponent by 2	If the problem contains an odd exponent: Break the problem up into 2 powers One should have the highest even exponent
Examples: 1) $\sqrt{x^4}$	 The other exponent should be 1 The sum of both exponents should be the original exponent
2) $\sqrt{x^4y^2z^6}$	Examples: 1) $\sqrt{x^5} = \sqrt{-1} \cdot \sqrt{-1}$
	$2) \sqrt{y^{11}} = \sqrt{-} \cdot \sqrt{-}$