

Jeanie Wrote The Correct First Step To Divide $8z^2 + 4z + 5$ By $2z$. Which Shows The Next Step? $4z + 2 + \frac{5}{2z}$

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Understanding how to divide algebraic expressions is a fundamental skill in algebra, and Jeanie's approach to dividing complex expressions demonstrates an important early step. In this article, we will analyze the initial steps Jeanie took, explore the correct procedures for dividing algebraic expressions, and guide you through the subsequent steps to simplify such expressions effectively. Whether you're a student learning algebra or someone brushing up on polynomial division, this comprehensive guide will clarify the process.

Understanding the Problem: Dividing $8z^2 + 4z + 5$ by $2z$

Before diving into the steps, it's essential to understand the structure of the problem.

Breaking Down the Expression

- Dividend: $8z^2 + 4z + 5$
- Divisor: $2z$

The goal is to divide the polynomial $8z^2 + 4z + 5$ by $2z$, simplifying the expression as much as possible.

Why is This Important?

Dividing polynomials helps in simplifying complex algebraic expressions, solving equations, and understanding how different algebraic structures relate to each other. Recognizing the initial step correctly sets the foundation for accurate simplification.

Jeanie's First Step: Factoring Out the Common Term

Jeanie's initial move was to divide each term of the polynomial by $2z$. This is a common approach in polynomial division, especially when dealing with monomial divisors.

Performing the Term-by-Term Division

- Divide $8z^2$ by $2z$:

$$\left(\frac{8z^2}{2z} = 4z\right)$$

- Divide $4z$ by $2z$:

$$\left(\frac{4z}{2z} = 2\right)$$

- Divide 5 by $2z$:

$\left(\frac{5}{2z}\right)$ (which remains as is because 5 and $2z$ are not like terms and cannot be simplified further directly)

This step results in an expression:

$$4z + 2 + \frac{5}{2z}$$

Note: The division of each term separately is valid because each term is a monomial, and the divisor is a monomial.

The Correct Next Step in Polynomial Division

Having obtained the initial simplified form, the next step involves further simplifying or rewriting the expression to understand the division's result better.

Understanding the Given Options

The question mentions options like:

- $4z^2$
- $4z2$
- 2
- $4z2$

These options suggest different forms of the expression, potentially representing parts of the division result or further steps.

Identifying the Appropriate Next Step

The key is recognizing that after dividing each term separately, the expression becomes:

$$4z + 2 + \frac{5}{2z}$$

If the task is to express the division result as a simplified algebraic expression, then:

- The main polynomial part is $(4z + 2)$
- The remaining fractional part is $\frac{5}{2z}$

Hence, the next logical step is to write the entire expression as a sum of polynomial and rational parts, or to combine like terms if possible.

Common Strategies for Dividing Polynomials

To guide further steps, it's important to understand standard methods in polynomial division.

1. Polynomial Long Division

This method involves dividing the polynomial step by step, similar to numerical long division, especially when dealing with higher degree polynomials.

2. Synthetic Division

Useful mainly for dividing by linear factors of the form $(z - c)$, less applicable in this context.

3. Term-by-Term Division

As demonstrated, dividing each term individually is straightforward when the divisor is a monomial.

Applying the Correct Next Step

Given the initial step, the next step depends on the goal:

- To express the division result as a mixed expression
- To perform further algebraic manipulations
- To write the division in a simplified form

Based on the options provided, the next step is most likely to combine the polynomial part and the fractional part, or to write the entire expression in a simplified form.

Expressing the Complete Result

The overall division yields:

$$\boxed{4z + 2 + \frac{5}{2z}}$$

which combines the polynomial terms with the fractional remainder.

Summary of the Step-by-Step Process

To clarify, here is a concise outline of how to approach dividing $(8z^2 + 4z + 5)$ by $(2z)$:

1. Divide each term separately:

$$\left(\frac{8z^2}{2z} = 4z\right)$$

$$\left(\frac{4z}{2z} = 2\right)$$

$\left(\frac{5}{2z}\right)$ remains as is

2. Express the result:

$$(4z + 2 + \frac{5}{2z})$$

3. Optional: Simplify or analyze further:

You may leave the answer as is or combine the fractional part with other terms, depending on the context.

Practical Tips for Algebraic Division

- Always factor out common terms before dividing
- Divide each term separately when dealing with polynomials and monomials
- Keep track of like terms and fractional remainders
- Double-check your division of powers of variables
- When in doubt, rewrite the expression in a combined or factored form for clarity

Conclusion: Mastering Polynomial Division

Jeanie's initial step in dividing $(8z^2 + 4z + 5)$ by $(2z)$ demonstrates a key technique in algebra: dividing each term individually. The next logical step is to write the simplified expression as:

$$4z + 2 + \frac{5}{2z}$$

This form clearly shows the polynomial part and the fractional remainder, making it easier to interpret or further manipulate. Remember, understanding the structure of your algebraic expressions and applying systematic strategies will always lead to correct and efficient solutions.

By practicing these steps and familiarizing yourself with common division techniques, you'll strengthen your algebra skills and be better prepared for more complex polynomial problems in the future.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the initial step Jeanie took to divide $8z^2 + 4z + 5$ by $2z$?

Jeanie first divided each term of the polynomial by $2z$ individually to simplify the expression.

After dividing each term by $2z$, what is the resulting expression?

The next step shows the simplified terms: $4z$, 2 , and $4z^2$.

Why is dividing each term by $2z$ an appropriate first step in polynomial division?

Dividing each term individually helps simplify the division process, making it easier to identify the quotient and remainder.

What are the possible next steps after obtaining $4z$, 2 , and $4z^2$ in the division process?

The next step involves arranging these terms and performing polynomial division or combining like terms to proceed with the calculation.

Is the division of each term by $2z$ the correct approach for dividing polynomials like $8z^2 + 4z + 5$ by $2z$?

Yes, dividing each term individually is a common and correct method to simplify the division process.

What does the sequence $4z$, 2 , $4z^2$ represent in the context of dividing $8z^2 + 4z + 5$ by $2z$?

It represents the results of dividing each term of the original polynomial by $2z$, which helps in setting up the division.

How does understanding the next step after dividing each term help in solving the polynomial division problem?

It clarifies how to combine terms and proceed with dividing the polynomial systematically to find the quotient and remainder.

Additional Resources

Mathematical Problem-Solving

Introduction

Mathematics, often regarded as the universal language, provides us with tools to analyze, understand, and solve real-world problems. Whether you're a student, educator, or a math enthusiast, mastering the steps of polynomial division is essential. Recently, a particular problem has garnered attention for its instructional value: "Jeanie Wrote The Correct First Step To Divide $8z^2 + 4z + 5$ By $2z$. Which Shows The Next Step? $4z + 2$, $4z^2 + 2$, $4z^2$ ".

This scenario offers a perfect opportunity to examine the process of polynomial division,

emphasizing the importance of correct initial steps and logical progression. In this article, we'll dissect the problem comprehensively, explore the reasoning behind each step, and provide expert insights into how to approach such polynomial division problems effectively.

Understanding Polynomial Division

What Is Polynomial Division?

Polynomial division is a method used to divide one polynomial by another, similar to long division with numbers. The goal is to express the dividend as a product of the divisor and a quotient, plus a remainder. Unlike numbers, polynomials involve variables raised to powers, which requires careful handling of like terms.

Key concepts:

- Dividend: The polynomial being divided (here, $8z^2 + 4z + 5$).
- Divisor: The polynomial dividing the dividend (here, $2z$).
- Quotient: The result of division, which should be a polynomial.
- Remainder: The leftover polynomial after division, if any.

Step 1: Analyzing the Initial Division

The Correct First Step

Given the problem, Jeanie's initial step was to divide the leading term of the dividend, $8z^2$, by the leading term of the divisor, $2z$.

Why is this the correct first step?

- In polynomial long division, the first step involves dividing the leading term of the dividend by the leading term of the divisor.
- This step determines the first term of the quotient.

Performing the division:

$$\left[\frac{8z^2}{2z} = 4z \right]$$

This is the initial quotient term.

Implications:

- The quotient's first term is $4z$.
- Next, we multiply the entire divisor by this term and subtract from the dividend.

Step 2: Calculating the Next Step

Multiplying the Divisor by the Quotient Term

Multiply $(2z)$ by $(4z)$:

$$\begin{aligned} & 2z \times 4z = 8z^2 \end{aligned}$$

This matches the leading term of the dividend, confirming correctness.

Step 3: Subtracting and Simplifying

Subtract $(8z^2)$ from the dividend:

$$\begin{aligned} & (8z^2 + 4z + 5) - 8z^2 = 4z + 5 \end{aligned}$$

Remaining polynomial:

$$\begin{aligned} & 4z + 5 \end{aligned}$$

Step 4: Next Step in the Division

Now, focus on dividing the new leading term, $(4z)$, by the leading term of the divisor, $(2z)$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{4z}{2z} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

This becomes the next quotient term.

Multiplying again:

$$\begin{aligned} & 2z \times 2 = 4z \end{aligned}$$

Subtract:

$$\begin{aligned} & (4z + 5) - 4z = 5 \end{aligned}$$

$\backslash$

Remaining term:

$\backslash$
5
 $\backslash$

Since the degree of 5 (constant term) is less than the degree of the divisor $\backslash(2z\backslash)$, the division process stops here.

Final quotient:

$\backslash$
 $4z + 2$
 $\backslash$

Remainder:

$\backslash$
5
 $\backslash$

Interpreting the Multiple Choice Options

The question asks: "Which shows the next step?" with options:

- $4z + 2$
- $4z^2 + 2$
- $4z^2$

Given our analysis, the next step after the initial division and subtraction is to divide the new leading term $\backslash(4z\backslash)$ by $\backslash(2z\backslash)$, which yields 2. When considering the options, the key is recognizing that the quotient term added at each step is 2, and the cumulative quotient is $4z + 2$.

Expert Insights: Clarifying the Process

Why is " $4z + 2$ " the correct next step?

- The division process is sequential. After the first division of $\backslash(8z^2\backslash)$ by $\backslash(2z\backslash)$, we arrive at the quotient " $4z$ ".
- The next logical step is dividing the new leading term $\backslash(4z\backslash)$ by $\backslash(2z\backslash)$, which yields 2.
- Combining the quotient terms, the total quotient after these steps is $4z + 2$.

Therefore, the next step in the process is recognizing that the quotient now has an additional term, "2".

Additional Clarifications

Why are options like " $4z^2 + 2$ " or " $4z^2$ " incorrect as the next step?

- Because these options suggest continuing the division prematurely or misrepresent the quotient.
- The division process involves dividing only the leading term at each step, then multiplying and subtracting, not directly jumping to higher-degree terms unless justified.

Broader Implications and Tips for Polynomial Division

How to approach polynomial division effectively:

1. Identify the leading terms: Always start by dividing the leading term of the dividend by the leading term of the divisor.
2. Write the quotient term: This becomes part of your overall quotient.
3. Multiply the divisor by this quotient term: To find the product to subtract.
4. Subtract and bring down the next term: Repeat the process with the new polynomial.
5. Repeat until degree of the remainder is less than divisor: When done, the polynomial you build is the quotient, and any leftover is the remainder.

Summary

In conclusion, the problem of dividing $(8z^2 + 4z + 5)$ by $(2z)$ exemplifies fundamental polynomial division steps. Jeanie's initial correct move was to divide the leading terms, resulting in $4z$. The subsequent logical step involves dividing the new leading term $(4z)$ by $(2z)$, which yields 2. This process forms the quotient $4z + 2$.

From the multiple-choice options, " $4z + 2$ " accurately reflects the next step, representing the cumulative quotient after completing the next division step.

Final Thoughts

Mastering polynomial division is essential for higher-level algebra and calculus. Recognizing the importance of dividing leading terms, multiplying back, and subtracting systematically ensures clarity and accuracy. Whether solving for unknowns, simplifying expressions, or tackling complex algebraic problems, these foundational skills serve as the backbone of mathematical problem-solving.

By understanding each step deeply and following a logical sequence, students and educators alike can enhance their proficiency, leading to greater confidence in tackling polynomial expressions of increasing complexity.

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