

Solve each equation. Check for extraneous answers.

1. $5^{x^2-12} = 25^{2x}$

$$5^{x^2-12} = (5^2)^{2x}$$

$$x^2 - 12 = 4x$$

$$x^2 - 4x - 12 = 0$$

$$(x-6)(x+2) = 0$$

$$\boxed{x = 6, x = -2}$$

2. $5^{2x} \cdot 5^{4x} = 125$

$$5^{6x} = 5^3$$

$$6x = 3$$

$$\boxed{x = \frac{1}{2}}$$

3. $3^{x+2} \cdot 3^x = 81$

By hand

$$3^{2x+2} = 3^4$$

$$2x+2 = 4$$

$$2x = 2$$

$$\boxed{x = 1}$$

4. $2|\ln x| - 6 = 0$

$$|\ln x| = 3$$

$$\ln x = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad \ln x = -3$$

$$e^3 = x$$

$$e^{-3} = x$$

$$\boxed{x = 20.09, .05}$$

5. $3|\log x| - 6 = 0$

$$|\log x| = 2$$

$$\log x = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad \log x = -2$$

$$10^2 = x \quad \text{or} \quad 10^{-2} = x$$

$$\boxed{x = 100, \frac{1}{100}}$$

6. $3^{x^2} = 45$

$$\log_3 45 = x^2$$

$$3.46 = x^2$$

$$\boxed{x = \pm 1.86}$$

7. $\log_2(x-1) - \log_2(x+3) = \log_2\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$

$$\log_2\left(\frac{x-1}{x+3}\right) = \log_2\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$\frac{x-1}{x+3} = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - x &= x + 3 \\ x^2 - 2x - 3 &= 0 \\ (x-3)(x+1) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{x = 3} \quad \text{or} \quad \cancel{x = -1}$$

8. $\ln(2x+1) + \ln(x-3) - 2\ln x = 0$

$$\ln \frac{(2x+1)(x-3)}{x^2} = 0$$

$$e^0 = \frac{(2x+1)(x-3)}{x^2}$$

$$1 = \frac{2x^2 - 5x - 3}{x^2}$$

$$x^2 = 2x^2 - 5x - 3$$

$$0 = x^2 - 5x - 3$$

$$(x \quad)(x \quad) = 0 \quad \text{none!}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot (-3)}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{37}}{2}$$

$$\boxed{x = 5.54} \quad \text{or} \quad \cancel{x = -1.54}$$