

When adding and subtracting rational expressions, we use the same rule for adding and subtracting fractions!

1. _____ the denominators(s) (if possible).
2. Determine the _____ and _____ the expression with the _____.
3. _____ the numerator(s). (You may need to _____, add/subtract like terms, and then _____).
4. _____ any common factors if possible.
5. _____, if possible.
6. _____ on the variable(s).

Examples: Simplify and state restrictions for each of the following.

$$(a) \frac{16t-11}{7} + \frac{4-2t}{7}$$

$$(b) \frac{3m}{8} - \frac{5m}{6} - \frac{2m}{3}$$

$$(c) \frac{3a-b}{9} - \frac{a-2b}{3} - \frac{4a-3b}{6}$$

$$(d) \frac{2x^2+3x+1}{4x^2-9} - \frac{x^2-3x-1}{9-4x^2}$$