

Multiply by one

A rational denominator, same value

Choose a factor that removes the denominator root.

Multiply the top and bottom by that same factor.

1. START: $7 / \sqrt{5}$

Your exact step / reason: _____

2. MULTIPLY: $\sqrt{5} / \sqrt{5}$

Your exact step / reason: _____

3. FINISH: $7\sqrt{5} / 5$

Your exact step / reason: _____

WORKED EXAMPLE

$$(7/\sqrt{5})(\sqrt{5}/\sqrt{5}) = 7\sqrt{5}/5.$$

$\sqrt{5}/\sqrt{5} = 1$, so the value is unchanged.

TRY IT: Why is $7\sqrt{5}$ alone not equivalent to $7/\sqrt{5}$?

Tactile / low-vision route:

Stack numerator and denominator strips; add $\sqrt{5}$ to both.