Negative Exponent Property

$$a^{-m} = \frac{1}{a^m}$$

A negative exponent represents the reciprocal of a number or variable. It does NOT make a number or variable negative.

Examples

1. $5^{-2} = \frac{1}{5^2} = \frac{1}{25}$
2. $x^{-6} = \frac{1}{x^6}$
3. $m^5 n^{-7} = \frac{m^5}{n^7}$
4. $4x^{-3} = \frac{4}{x^3}$

Try These

1. $(-3)^{-2}$	1. _____
2. 4^{-3}	2. _____
3. m^{-8}	3. _____
4. $-5b^{-4}$	4. _____
5. $x^{-2}y^5$	5. _____
6. $7p^2q^{-6}$	6. _____
7. $\frac{1}{y^{-5}}$	7. _____
8. $\frac{j^3}{h^{-4}}$	8. _____
9. $\frac{1}{6w^{-2}}$	9. _____