

Answer on Question #50453 – Math – Algebra

Which of the following correctly describes the product below?

- A. irrational
- B. neither rational nor irrational
- C. a combination of both rational and irrational
- D. rational

Solution

Consider two irrational numbers, for example, $\sqrt{2}$ and $\sqrt{3}$ then product of these numbers is $\sqrt{2} * \sqrt{3} = \sqrt{6}$, which is also irrational number (case A).

But products $\sqrt{2} * \sqrt{2} = 2$, $\sqrt{2} * \sqrt{8} = \sqrt{16} = 4$ are rational numbers (case D).

Hence, product of irrational numbers will be rational or irrational number.

Product of rational numbers always will be a rational number (case D).

The product of two numbers, one of which rational and irrational else always will be an irrational number (case C): for example, product of $\sqrt{2}$ and 2 is $2 * \sqrt{2} = 2\sqrt{2}$, that is, also irrational number.

Actually, any real number, not equal to zero, can be written as the product of two irrational numbers. Let α will be rational, then take, for example,

$$\alpha = \sqrt{2} * \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}$$

where $\sqrt{2}$ and $\frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}}$ are irrational.

If α will be irrational, then take, for example,

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\alpha} * \sqrt{\alpha}$$

where $\sqrt{\alpha}$ is irrational.

Answer: A; C; D.