

Very similar to adding or subtracting regular numbers but with one difference. We can ONLY add/subtract those terms that either have the same variables (letters) and the same exponents. If they have the same *letters* they are like terms. If they have the same letters they must have the same *exponent* number ( $ab^2 + 2ab^2 = 3ab^2$  can be added together). If you have a different exponent ( $ab^2 + 2ab^3$ ) they cannot be added together because they have a different exponent!

Example:  $a + b - ab + 3a = 4a + b - ab$



$$a + a - ab + a = \underline{\quad} - ab$$

$$a + b - a + 3a = \underline{\quad} + b$$

$$ab + b - ab + 3b =$$

$$a^2 + b - ab + 3a^2 =$$

$$2b^2 + b - b^2 + 6c =$$

$$a + b - ab + 3a =$$