

Find the derivative of  $f(x) = x \cdot \sqrt{x}$

1) Rewrite first to show the exponent rather than the root:  $f(x) = x \cdot x^{\frac{1}{2}}$

2) Multiply the  $x$  by the  $x^{\frac{1}{2}}$  to get:  $f(x) = x^1 \cdot x^{\frac{1}{2}} = x^{\frac{2}{2} + \frac{1}{2}} = x^{\frac{3}{2}}$

3) Now you can differentiate with the power rule. Bring the  $\frac{3}{2}$  down, and subtract 1 from the exponent.

$$f'(x) = \frac{3}{2} \cdot x^{\frac{3}{2} - 1} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot x^{\frac{3}{2} - \frac{2}{2}} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

4) Lastly, rewrite this using the root symbol:  $f'(x) = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \sqrt{x}$

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