

**common logarithm:** a logarithm with a base of 10

Example: The function  $y = 2 \log_{10} x$  is a common logarithm. This is usually written as  $y = 2 \log x$ .

**logarithmic function:** a function of the form  $y = a \log_b x$  where  $b > 0$ ,  $b \neq 1$ ,  $a \neq 0$ , and  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers

Example: The function  $y = 5 \log_3 x$  is a logarithmic function.

**logarithmic scale:** a scale of measurement using the logarithm of a physical quantity instead of the quantity itself

**natural logarithm:** a logarithm with a base of  $e$

Example: The function  $y = \log_e x$  is a natural logarithm. This is usually written  $y = \ln x$ .