Subtracting Integers

Rule 4. When subtracting signed numbers, change the sign of the subtrahend (second number) and add using rule 1, 2 or 3, whichever applies.

Example: 16 – (–4)   R4, R1
16 ± (+4) = 20

Example:
(–2) – (+15)   R4, R2
(–2) – (+15) = (–2) ± (–15),
= –17.

Hint: Always place the changed sign above the original sign

Simplify the following.

1. (+5) – (–8)   **2.** (–2) – (+9)   **3.** +4 – (+6)

4. (–9) – (+2)   **5.** (–3) – (–14) – (+1)   **6.** (–11) – (+3)

7. –30 – (+5)   **8.** +7 – (–10)   **9.** –2 – (+7) – (–4)

10. –21 – (–5) – (+8) – (+9)   **11.** (+1) – (–5) – (–8)   **12.** –1 – (+5) – (–12)