

Linear Equations; $ax + b = c$

Strategy

Use the Order of Operations in reverse using the inverse (opposite) operation to isolate the variable.

Order of Operations



1. Grouping
2. Exponentials
3. Multiply/Divide
4. Addition/Subtraction



from left to right

Example: **Solve** $5x - 2 = 18$

$$\begin{array}{r} + 2 \quad + 2 \\ 5x - 2 = 18 \\ \hline 5x = 20 \\ x = 4 \end{array}$$

Solve the following equations.

1. $3x + 4 = 19$

2. $4x - 2 = 18$

3. $5x + 6 = 36$

4. $7x - 6 = 22$

5. $6x - 5 = 37$

6. $5x + 3 = -27$

7. $-4x + 7 = -25$

8. $-30 = 4x + 2$

9. $3 = 5x + 38$

10. $4x + 3 = 1$

11. $\frac{x}{2} + 6 = 10$

12. $\frac{y}{4} - 3 = 7$

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Example: Solve

$$5x - 2 = 18$$

$$\underline{+ 2 \quad + 2}$$

$$5x = 20$$

$$x = 4$$

Solve the following:

1. $3x + 7 = -8$

2. $4x - 5 = -25$

3. $5x + 12 = -8$

4. $2x + 9 = -5$

5. $6x - 4 = 20$

6. $7x + 3 = -18$

7. $8x - 6 = 26$

8. $9x + 1 = -35$

9. $5x - 10 = 15$

10. $4x + 11 = -13$

11. $3x - 8 = 13$

12. $2x - 7 = -17$

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Example: Solve

$$5x - 2 = 18$$

$$\underline{+ 2 \quad + 2}$$

$$5x = 20$$

$$x = 4$$

Solve the following equations.

1. $4x + 5 = -19$

2. $6x - 8 = 16$

3. $7x + 3 = -25$

4. $5x - 9 = 26$

5. $8x + 6 = -34$

6. $3x - 7 = 20$

7. $9x + 2 = -43$

8. $2x + 12 = 0$

9. $4x - 11 = 13$

10. $5x + 4 = -21$

11. $6x - 10 = 32$

12. $7x + 8 = -27$

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Order of Operations

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5. Grouping
6. Exponentials
7. Multiply/Divide →
8. Addition/Subtraction

Example: Solve

$$5x - 2 = 18$$

$$\underline{+ 2 \quad + 2}$$

$$5x = 20$$

$$x = 4$$

Solve the following problems

1. $8x + 7 = -41$

2. $9x - 5 = 40$

3. $6x + 11 = -19$

4. $5x - 12 = 23$

5. $4x + 13 = -15$

6. $7x - 6 = 29$

7. $3x + 14 = -4$

8. $2x - 17 = -31$

9. $8x + 2 = -30$

10. $9x + 8 = -46$

11. $5x - 15 = 10$

12. $6x + 4 = -20$