

Algebra 1 2.8

Solve equations for given variables.

Use formulas to solve real-world problems

variable

equation

literal equation

solve for...

formula

dimensional analysis

How do we solve equations?

$$2(x-3) = 5x + 13$$

$$2x + -6 = 5x + 13$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2x \quad -2x \\ \hline -6 = 3x + 13 \\ -13 \quad -13 \end{array}$$

$$x = \frac{49}{3} \quad \frac{-19}{3} = \frac{3x}{3}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x + 3 = 5 \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline x = 2 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{2 \cdot n}{2} = \frac{12}{2}$$

$$n = 6$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x + 5 = 9 \\ -5 \quad -5 \\ \hline 2x = 4 \\ \frac{2x}{2} = \frac{4}{2} \\ x = 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 2 = 0 \\ +2 \quad +2 \\ \hline x = 2 \end{array}$$

**Example 1** Solve for a Specific Variable

Solve  $4m - 3n = 8$  for  $m$ .

$$\begin{array}{r} 4m - 3n = 8 \\ +3n \quad +3n \\ \hline 4m = 3n + 8 \\ \frac{4m}{4} = \frac{3n}{4} + \frac{8}{4} \\ m = \frac{3}{4}n + 2 \end{array}$$

Solve each equation for the variable indicated.

1A.  $15 = 3n + 6p$ , for  $n$   $m = .75n + 2$  1B.  $\frac{k-2}{5} = 11j$ , for  $k$

$$\begin{array}{r} -6p + 15 = 3n \\ \frac{-6p + 15}{3} = \frac{3n}{3} \\ -2p + 5 = n \end{array}$$

$$n = -2p + 5$$

$$\cancel{5} \cdot (\cancel{k} + 2) = 11j - 5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1(k-2) = 55j \\ \cancel{k} - 2 = 55j \\ +2 \quad +2 \end{array}$$

$$k = 55j + 2$$

8.  $u = vw + z$ , for  $v$

10.  $fg - 9h = 10j$ , for  $g$

$$u = v \cdot w + z$$

$-z$                        $-z$

$$\frac{u-z}{w} = \frac{v \cdot w}{w}$$

$$v = \frac{u-z}{w}$$

9.  $x = b - cd$ , for  $c$

11.  $10m - p = -n$ , for  $m$

$$x = b - cd$$

$-b$                        $-b$

$$\frac{x-b}{d} = \frac{-c \cdot d}{d}$$

$$\frac{x-b}{-1 \cdot d} = \frac{-1c}{-1}$$

$$c = \frac{x}{-d} + \frac{b}{d}$$

$$-c = -1c$$

$$\textcircled{fg} - 9h = 10j$$

$+9h$                        $+9h$

$$\cancel{fg} = \frac{10j}{f} + \frac{9h}{f}$$

$$g = \frac{10j}{f} + \frac{9h}{f}$$

$$\textcircled{10m} - p = -n$$

$+p$                        $+p$

$$\cancel{10m} = \frac{p}{10} - \frac{n}{10}$$

$$m = \frac{p}{10} - \frac{n}{10}$$

12.  $r = \frac{2}{3}t + v$ , for  $t$

14.  $\frac{10ac - x}{11} = -3$ , for  $a$

13.  $\frac{5}{9}v + w = z$ , for  $v$

15.  $\frac{df + 10}{6} = g$ , for  $f$

$r = \frac{2}{3}t + v$

$\frac{2}{3}t + v = r$

$\frac{2}{3}t = r - v$

$t = \frac{3}{2}(r - v)$

$t = \frac{3}{2}r - \frac{3}{2}v$

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