

4-9 More Equations

Objective: To solve equations by simplifying expressions involving combining like terms and the distributive property.

Example 1 Solve $5(6n - 4) = 70$. Check the solution.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} 5(6n - 4) &= 70 \\ 30n - 20 &= 70 && \leftarrow \text{Use the distributive property.} \\ 30n - 20 + 20 &= 70 + 20 && \leftarrow \text{Add 20 to both sides.} \\ 30n &= 90 \\ \frac{30n}{30} &= \frac{90}{30} && \leftarrow \text{Divide both sides by 30.} \\ n &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

The solution is 3.

Check:

$$\begin{aligned} 5(6n - 4) &= 70 \\ 5(6[3] - 4) &\stackrel{?}{=} 70 \\ 5(18 - 4) &\stackrel{?}{=} 70 \\ 5(14) &\stackrel{?}{=} 70 \\ 70 &= 70 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Solve. Check each solution.

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|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. $5(x - 2) = 20$ | 2. $-4(z + 7) = 24$ | 3. $2(3m - 3) = 66$ |
| 4. $-20 = -5(a + 7)$ | 5. $-2(x + 3) = -12$ | 6. $210(x - 3) = 840$ |
| 7. $-90 = 3(-2z - 8)$ | 8. $3(x + 1) = 15$ | 9. $80 = 10(3t + 2)$ |
| 10. $-(7 - h) = 13$ | 11. $16 = 4(x - 5)$ | 12. $-7(y - 1) = 21$ |
| 13. $6(4 - z) = 18$ | 14. $180(n - 2) = 900$ | 15. $4(2t + 11) = 12$ |

Example 2 Solve $36 = 8n + n$. Check the solution.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} 36 &= 8n + n \\ 36 &= 8n + 1n \\ 36 &= 9n && \leftarrow \text{Combine like terms.} \\ \frac{36}{9} &= \frac{9n}{9} \\ 4 &= n \end{aligned}$$

The solution is 4.

Check:

$$\begin{aligned} 36 &= 8n + n \\ 36 &\stackrel{?}{=} 8(4) + 4 \\ 36 &\stackrel{?}{=} 32 + 4 \\ 36 &= 36 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$