

Integer Subtraction Rules

When you subtract an integer, it's the same as **adding** the **opposite**. So, you can change a subtraction problem into an addition problem. Take a closer look at these examples.

$$-6 - 2 \rightarrow -6 + (-2)$$

$$-4 - (-1) \rightarrow -4 + 1$$

Then use the same rules as adding integers:
















$$-6 + (-2) = -8$$

$$-4 + 1 = -3$$

Since these numbers have the same sign, find the sum. The answer will be negative because both numbers are negative.

Since these numbers have different signs, find the difference. The answer will be negative because -4 has the larger absolute value.

Use integer subtraction rules to determine if the answer to each problem will be positive or negative. The first one has been done for you.

3 - (-7)  -	-8 - 5 + 	-9 - (-1) + 	6 - 10 + 	-1 - (-4)  -
12 - (-9)  -	-7 - (-11)  -	-16 - 5 + 	13 - (-8)  -	-19 - 2 + 
-14 - (-21)  -	-18 - 12 + 	24 - (-10)  -	17 - 29 + 	12 - (-13)  -

Solve each problem. Use integer subtraction rules to help!

$-6 - 4 = \underline{-10}$	$2 - 8 = \underline{-6}$	$7 - (-6) = \underline{13}$	$-9 - 3 = \underline{-12}$
$1 - 5 = \underline{-4}$	$-4 - 8 = \underline{-12}$	$-2 - (-3) = \underline{1}$	$11 - (-6) = \underline{17}$
$-20 - (-7) = \underline{-13}$	$16 - 18 = \underline{-2}$	$-23 - (-12) = \underline{-11}$	$15 - 21 = \underline{-6}$