## •• SOLVING SYSTEMS OF LINEAR EQUATIONS BY ••

Graphing, Substitution, and Elimination

There are different ways to solve a system of linear equations, including graphing, substitution, and elimination. Let's review each method to solve this system of equations.

Equation 1: x - 3y = 9

Equation 2: 2x = 4 - y

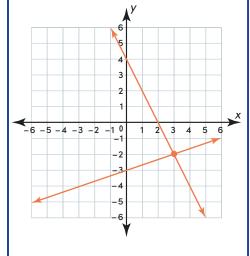
## • • GRAPHING • •

Write each equation in slope-intercept form.

$$x - 3y = 9$$
$$y = \frac{1}{3}x - 3$$
and

$$2x = 4 - y$$
$$y = -2x + 4$$

Graph both equations on the coordinate plane below. Then, find the point where the lines intersect.



The solution is the point of intersection:  $(\underline{3}, \underline{-2})$ 

## • • SUBSTITUTION • •

Solve either equation for one of the variables.

$$x - 3y = 9$$
  
 $x + 3y = 9 + 3y$   
 $x = 9 + 3y$ 

Take your solution from above and substitute it for the variable in the other equation. Then, solve.

$$2x = 4 - y$$

$$2(9 + 3y) = 4 - y$$

$$18 + 6y = 4 - y$$

$$18 + 6y + y = 4 - y + y$$

$$18 + 7y = 4$$

$$18 + 7y - 18 = 4 - 18$$

$$7y = -14$$

$$y = -2$$

Plug the value from above into one of the equations to solve for the other variable.

$$x-3y=9$$
  
 $x-3(-2)=9$   
 $x-(-6)=9$   
 $x+6=9$   
 $x=3$ 

Since  $x = \frac{3}{}$  and  $y = \frac{-2}{}$ , the solution is (3, -2).

## • • ELIMINATION • •

Rewrite the equations so you can add or subtract them to eliminate a variable term. You'll want the coefficients of one of the variables to be opposites or the same number. Then, solve for the other variable.

$$2x + y = 4 - y + y$$
  
 $2x + y = 4$   
 $x - 3y = 9$   
 $3(2x + y = 4)$ 

$$x - 3y = 9$$

$$+ 6x + 3y = 12$$

$$7x + 0y = 21$$

$$7x = 21$$

$$x = 3$$

Plug the value from above into one of the equations to solve for the other variable.

$$2x = 4 - y$$

$$2(3) = 4 - y$$

$$6 = 4 - y$$

$$6 - 4 = 4 - y - 4$$

$$2 = -y$$

$$y = -2$$

Since x = 3 and y = -2, the solution is (3, -2).