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Solving Multi-Step Equations: Part 1

You can solve an equation by getting the variable alone on one side of the equation. When solving a multi-step equation, you will need to complete multiple steps.



Let's try it! Solve the equation 5(4h - 3) = 13 + 6h.

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5(4h – 3) = 13 + 6h	Apply distributive property. Multiply the terms inside of the parentheses by 5.
20h - 15 = 13 + 6h	
20h – 15 – 6h = 13 + 6h – 6h	Subtract 6h from both sides of the equation to get the variable term to one side.
14h – 15 = 13	
14 <i>h</i> – 15 + 15 = 13 + 15	Add 15 to both sides of the equation to get the variable term alone.
14 <i>h</i> = 28	
$\frac{14h}{14} = \frac{28}{14}$	Divide both sides of the equation by 14 to get h alone.
h = 2	

Practice! Solve each equation.

2n – 7 – 5n = 11	3k + 7 = 15 - k
6(2p - 3) = 42	4 – 9c – 12 + 3c = 22
7r - 7 = 5(r - 3)	3(2w - 9) = 14 + 2w - 5
5d + 10 - 3d = 27 + 9d + 32	7a - 4 - 4a = 3(3a + 7) + 23