

2.2

Multiplication Property of Equality

You can multiply both sides of an equation by any number (other than zero) without changing the solution.

(ex.) Notice $x=6$ is the solution to $\frac{1}{2}x=3$ multiplying both sides by 2 gives $x=6$.

Use this to find solutions.

(ex.) find solution to $\frac{1}{4}x=5$

$$4(\frac{1}{4}x) = 4(5)$$

$$\boxed{x=20}$$

check:

$$\frac{1}{4}(20) \stackrel{?}{=} 5$$

$$5 = 5 \checkmark$$

Can divide both sides too!

(ex.) Solve $2x=10$

$$\frac{2x}{2} = \frac{10}{2}$$

$$\boxed{x=5}$$

check: $2(5) \stackrel{?}{=} 10$

$$10 = 10 \checkmark$$

Coefficients of -1

What do we do if an equation has a $-x$ in it?

Remember that $-x$ is the same as $-1x$. Also remember that $(-1)(-1) = 1$.

ex) Solve $-x = 16/3$

multiply both sides by -1

$$(-1)(-1x) = (-1)(16/3)$$

$$1x = -16/3$$

$$\boxed{x = -16/3}$$

check:

$$-(-16/3) \stackrel{?}{=} 16/3$$

$$16/3 = 16/3$$

Sometimes need to use both the addition/subtraction property AND the multiplication/division property.

In these cases

- use addition/subtraction property first (and get the "x-term" alone)

- then use multiplication/division property (to get the "x" alone)

$$\text{ex) } \begin{array}{r} 2x - 8 = 4 \\ +8 \quad +8 \end{array}$$

$$2x = 12$$

$$\boxed{x = 6}$$

$$\text{check: } 2(6) - 8 \stackrel{?}{=} 4$$

$$12 - 8 \stackrel{?}{=} 4$$

$$4 = 4 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{ex) } -3y + 5 = 7$$

$$\frac{-3y}{-3} = \frac{2}{-3}$$

$$y = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$\text{check: } -3\left(-\frac{2}{3}\right) + 5 \stackrel{?}{=} 7$$

$$2 + 5 \stackrel{?}{=} 7$$

$$7 = 7 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\text{ex) } -2x - 8 = x + 4$$

$$\frac{-8}{-4} = \frac{3x + 4}{-4}$$

$$\frac{-12}{3} = \frac{3x}{3}$$

$$-4 = x$$

$$\text{check: } -2(-4) - 8 \stackrel{?}{=} (-4) + 4$$

$$8 - 8 \stackrel{?}{=} -4 + 4$$

$$0 = 0 \quad \checkmark$$