

A **two-step equation** contains two operations.

- ▶ **Two-step equations** require two **inverse operations** to solve for the **variable**.
- ▶ To keep an equation **balanced**, **inverse operations** must be done on both sides of the equations.
- ▶ The **solution** is the value of the variable that makes the equation true.

**multiplication**

$$2x + 3 = 7$$

**addition**

**division**

$$\frac{x}{4} - 5 = 1$$

**subtraction**

**Inverse  
Operation**

$$2 \bullet m + 2 = 8$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \quad -2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

**Balance**

**Inverse  
Operation**

$$\begin{array}{r} 2m + 0 = 6 \\ \hline 2 \quad 2 \\ \hline m = 3 \end{array}$$

**Balance**

$$2 \bullet m + 2 = 8$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \quad -2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

**Inverse Operation**

**Balance**

$$2m + 0 = 6$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \quad 2 \\ \hline m = 3 \end{array}$$

**Inverse Operation**

**Balance**

**Solution**

**Solution  
m = 3**

$$\begin{array}{l} 2m + 2 = 8 \\ 2(3) + 2 = 8 \\ 6 + 2 = 8 \\ 8 = 8 \quad \checkmark \end{array}$$

**NOT a  
Solution  
m = 2**

$$\begin{array}{l} 2m + 2 = 8 \\ 2(2) + 2 = 8 \\ 4 + 2 = 8 \\ 6 \neq 8 \quad \times \end{array}$$



Which of the following is an example of a two-step equation? Explain.

- A**  $5x = 6$     **B**  $5x - 4 = 6$     **C**  $x - 4 = 6$

Which two inverse operations would be used to solve the equation  $5x - 4 = 6$ ? Explain.

- A** addition and multiplication    **B** addition and division

What is the difference between a solution and not a solution?

In your own words, what is a two-step equation?

1. Isolate the variable.
2. Solve for the variable. (use inverse operations)
3. Check and interpret the solution.

1.  $5m + 15 = 25$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

2.  $3b + 6 = -18$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  $2k - 9 = -21$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

4.  $4d - 7 = 5$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Isolate the variable.
2. Solve for the variable. (use inverse operations)
3. Check and interpret the solution.

5.  $\frac{c}{6} + 1 = -1$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

6.  $\frac{x}{2} - 3 = -2$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Read the problem and write a corresponding equation.
2. Isolate the variable.
3. Solve for the variable. (use inverse operations)
4. Interpret the solution.

7. Emma bought several packs of markers, each costing \$5. She used a \$4 coupon, bringing her total to \$26. How many packs did she buy?

**Interpret:**

8. Cory bought 6 apples and spent an additional \$1 for sales tax. If she spent \$13 in total, how much did each apple cost?

**Interpret:**

## Skill Closure

1. Isolate the variable.
2. Solve for the variable. (use inverse operations)
3. Check and interpret the solution.

1.  $9w + 11 = 56$

**Check:****Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

2.  $7g - 6 = 50$

**Check:****Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

## Concept Closure

**Write a corresponding equation for the word problem.**

Jason has some trading cards and he wants to divide them equally among his 4 cousins. He also kept 3 cards for himself. If each cousin received 12 cards, how many trading cards did Jason have to start with?

## Summary Closure

**What did you learn today about solving two-step equations?**

## Word Bank

two-step equation  
inverse operation  
solution  
isolate

1. Isolate the variable.
2. Solve for the variable. (use inverse operations)
3. Check and interpret the solution.

1.  $-5x + 9 = 44$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

2.  $3x - 12 = -3$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

3.  $\frac{z}{3} + 2 = -5$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

4.  $\frac{d}{12} - 9 = -11$

**Check:**

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations  
used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

1. Read the problem and write a corresponding equation.
2. Isolate the variable.
3. Solve for the variable. (use inverse operations)
4. Interpret the solution.

**5.** A movie theater charges \$8 per ticket. There is also a service fee of \$4 added to the total. If the total cost for a group of friends was \$52, how many tickets did they buy?

**Interpret:**

**6.** Andy baked cupcakes to share equally among 3 friends. Each friend ate 2 cupcakes immediately. If each friend had 6 cupcakes remaining to take home, how many cupcakes did Andy bake in total?

**Interpret:**



## Listening

Listen to the problem. Solve and interpret the solution.

1.  $2b + 2 = 6$

2.  $\frac{a}{2} + 4 = 12$

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.

**Interpret:**

The inverse operations used to solve this problem are

\_\_\_\_\_.

The value of the variable is \_\_\_\_\_.



## Reading

**Read the problem. Solve, check and interpret the solution.**

1. Janice started with some books. She lost half of her original books in a fire, and then bought 5 more. If she had 17 books after buying the new ones, how many books did she have originally?
2. For a field trip, 4 students rode in cars, and the rest rode in nine buses. How many students were in each bus if there were 382 students in total on the trip?

- 2. For a field trip, 4 students rode in cars, and the rest rode in nine buses. How many students were in each bus if there were 382 students in total on the trip?**





## Writing

Describe and correct the error each problem has.

1.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 6b + 7 = 331 \\
 + 7 \quad + 7 \\
 \hline
 \underline{6b} + 0 = \underline{338} \\
 6 \qquad \qquad 6 \\
 b = \frac{169}{3}
 \end{array}$$

2.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 4e + 5 = 25 \\
 -5 \quad -5 \\
 \hline
 4 \cdot 4e \quad 0 = 20 \cdot 4 \\
 e = \mathbf{80}
 \end{array}$$