

Solve Subtraction Equations

Addition and subtraction are inverse operations because what one operation does, the other one can undo.

$$8 + 4 = 12$$

$$12 - 4 = 8 \leftarrow \text{Subtraction undo addition}$$

You can use the idea of inverse operation to solve subtraction equations.

Solve $x - 5 = 9$

Read the equation as “a number x minus five equals nine.”

Since 5 is subtracted from x, add 5 to each side of equation to solve for x.

$$x - 5 = 9$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +5 \\ +5 \end{array}$$

$$x = 14$$

Examples:

A- Solve and check.

1) $u - 12 = 3$

$$\underline{u - 12 + 12 = 3 + 12}$$

$$\underline{u + 0 = 15}$$

$$\underline{u = 15}$$

2) $s - 5 = 8$

$$\underline{s - 5 + 5 = 8 + 5}$$

$$\underline{s - 0 = 13}$$

$$\underline{s = 13}$$

3) $8.2 = g - 3.4$

$$\underline{8.2 + 3.4 = g - 3.4 + 3.4}$$

$$\underline{4.8 = g + 0}$$

$$\underline{4.8 = g}$$