

Introduction to Algebra - Solving Linear Equations

Learning Objective

Students will be able to understand and solve basic linear equations using inverse operations.

Introduction

Linear equations are mathematical expressions involving variables raised to the power of one. Solving linear equations involves finding the value of the variable that makes the equation true.

Key Concepts

- A linear equation is an equation of the form $ax + b = c$.
- The goal is to isolate the variable (usually x).
- Use inverse operations to 'undo' addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division.
- Always perform the same operation on both sides of the equation to keep it balanced.

Example Problem

Solve: $3x - 4 = 11$

Step 1: Add 4 to both sides $\rightarrow 3x = 15$

Step 2: Divide both sides by 3 $\rightarrow x = 5$

Tips for Success

- Break down each step and take your time.
- Use visual aids or drawings if it helps you understand better.
- Practice with different problems to become more comfortable with the process.