

$$1 = 2 ?$$

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$$a = b \qquad \text{Let } a = b$$

$$a^2 = ab \qquad \text{Multiply } a \text{ by Both Sides}$$

$$a^2 - b^2 = ab - b^2 \qquad \text{Subtract } b^2 \text{ by Both Sides}$$

$$(a + b)(a - b) = b(a - b) \qquad \text{Factor out } (a - b) \text{ on Both Sides}$$

$$a + b = b \qquad (a - b) \text{ Cancels on Both Sides}$$

$$b + b = b \qquad \text{Substitute } a \text{ for } b$$

$$2b = b \qquad \text{Combine Like Terms}$$

$$2 = 1 \qquad \text{Divide by } b \text{ on Both Sides}$$