

# Elementary Matrices

An elementary matrix,  $E$ , is one that differs by  $I_n$  by one [row operation](#)

Note:

1. Every  $E$  is invertible
2. Every  $E$  is square

For example,

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is an elementary matrix as it differs from  $I_3$  by one row operation ( $R_2 = R_2 - 2R_1$ )

## What Do They Represent

Each elementary matrix represents a row operation.