

Step 1:

Combine the resistors using the correct formula until you have a simple circuit.

Equivalent Resistance for a Series Circuit	Equivalent Resistance for a Parallel Circuit
$R_s = R_1 + R_2 + R_3$	$\frac{1}{R_p} = \frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} + \frac{1}{R_3}$

Step 2:

Solve the simple circuit.

Step 3:

Go upward to each complex circuit, one at a time. In each case, follow the rule for separating resistors.

Rule for separating two resistors in series	Rule for separating two resistors in parallel.
Two resistors in series <i>always have the same current.</i>	Two resistors in parallel <i>always have the same voltage (potential difference).</i>

Step 4:

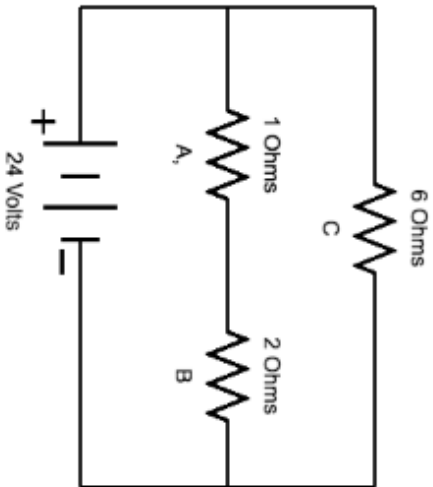
Solve each more complex circuit as you reach it.

Repeat.

Step 5:

Use the information you have compiled to answer the final question:

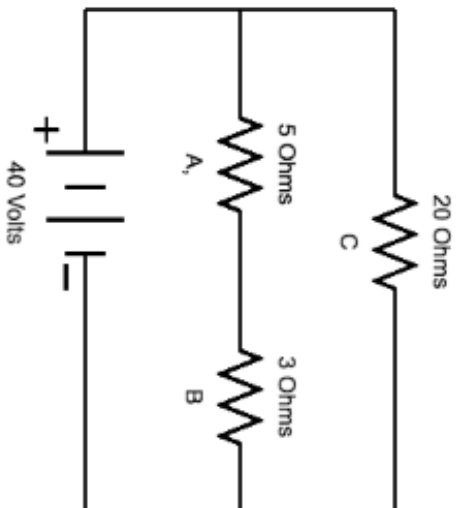
Problem 1:
Using the table below, find the power dissipated by each individual resistor and the total circuit:

Original Circuit		<div></div>			
		V			
		I			
		R			
		P			
Simpler Circuit		V			
		I			
		R			
		P			

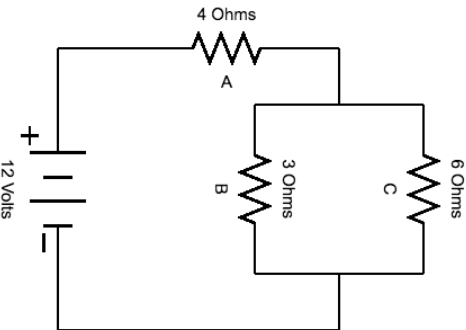
Answer the final question

	Resistor A	Resistor B	Resistor C	Total Circuit
Power (Watts)				

Problem 2: Using the table below, find the power dissipated by each individual resistor and the total circuit:

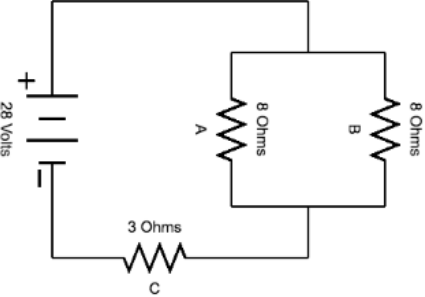
Original Circuit						
		V				
		I				
		R				
		P				
Simpler Circuit		V				
		I				
		R				
		P				

Problem X1: Using the table below, find the power dissipated by each individual resistor and the total circuit:

Original Circuit 				
	V			
	I			
	R			
	P			
Simpler Circuit	V			
	I			
	R			
	P			

	Resistor A	Resistor B	Resistor C	Total Circuit
Power (Watts)				

Problem X2:
Using the table below, find the power dissipated by each individual resistor and the total circuit:

Original Circuit 					
	V				
	I				
	R				
	P				
Simpler Circuit	V				
	I				
	R				
	P				

	Resistor A	Resistor B	Resistor C	Total Circuit
Power (Watts)				

One-Step Accordion Problem Template

Original Circuit	V				
	I				
	R				
	P				
Simpler Circuit	V				
	I				
	R				
	P				

Alternative one-step accordion method template

Original Circuit					
	V				
	I				
	R				
	P				
Simpler Circuit	V				
	I				
	R				
	P				