

Solving for Variables in Equations With More Than One Variable

Directions: Solve each equation for the indicated variable.

1. $C = \pi d$, for d

$$\frac{C}{\pi} = \frac{\pi d}{\pi}$$
$$d = \frac{C}{\pi}$$

2. $P = 2l + 2w$, for l

$$P = 2L + 2w$$

$-2w$ $-2w$

$$\frac{P - 2w}{2} = \frac{2L}{2}$$

$$L = \frac{P - 2w}{2}$$
 OR

$$L = \frac{P}{2} - \frac{2w}{2}$$
$$L = \frac{P}{2} - w$$

3. $y = mx + b$, for m

$$y = mx + b$$

~~$-b$~~ ~~$-b$~~

$$\frac{y-b}{x} = \frac{mx}{x}$$

$$\boxed{m = \frac{y-b}{x}} \quad \text{OR}$$

$$\boxed{m = \frac{y}{x} - \frac{b}{x}}$$

4. $4x + 2y = 8$, for y

$$+4x + 2y = 8$$

~~$-4x$~~ ~~$-4x$~~

$$\frac{2y}{2} = \frac{8-4x}{2}$$

$$\boxed{y = 4 - 2x}$$

5. $-6y + 2x = -18$, for y

$$-6y + \cancel{2x} = -18$$

$\quad -2x \quad -2x$

$$\cancel{-6y} = \frac{-18 - \cancel{2x}}{-6}$$

$$y = 3 + \frac{x}{3}$$

6. $A = \frac{1}{2}h(b_1 + b_2)$, for b_1

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{h}{1} \cdot \frac{(b_1 + b_2)}{1}$$

$$\cancel{\frac{A}{1}} = \frac{h(b_1 + b_2)}{2}$$

$$2A = h(b_1 + b_2)$$

$$2A = hb_1 + \cancel{hb_2}$$

$-hb_2 \quad -hb_2$

$$\frac{2A}{h} - \frac{hb_2}{h} = \frac{hb_1}{h}$$
$$\frac{2A}{h} - b_2 = b_1$$

$$b_1 = \frac{2A}{h} - b_2$$

7. $C = \frac{5}{9}(F - 32)$, for F

$$\frac{C}{1} = \frac{5}{9} \frac{(F-32)}{1}$$

~~$$\frac{C}{1} = \frac{5(F-32)}{9}$$~~

$$9C = 5(F-32)$$

$$9C = 5F - 160$$

$$+160 \quad +160$$

$$\frac{9C}{5} + \frac{160}{5} = \frac{5F}{5}$$

$$\frac{9C}{5} + 32 = F$$

$$F = \frac{9C}{5} + 32$$