

Section 3.2 – Substitution and Elimination



Solve the following systems by substitution.

(3, -5)

1. $y = x - 8$
 $3x + y = 4$

$3x + x - 8 = 4$

$4x - 8 = 4$

$4x = 12$

$x = 3$

$y = 3 - 8$
 $y = -5$

(12, 3)

2. $x = 4y$
 $x - y = 9$

$4y - y = 9$

$3y = 9$

$y = 3$

$x = 4(3)$
 $x = 12$

(9, -12)

3. $y = -3 - x$
 $3x + 2y = 3$

$3x + 2(-3 - x) = 3$

$3x - 6 - 2x = 3$

$x - 6 = 3$

$x = 9$

$y = -3 - 9$
 $y = -12$

(-2, 6)

4. $x + y = 4$
 $3x + y = 0$

$3x + 4 - x = 0$

$2x + 4 = 0$

$2x = -4$

$x = -2$

$3(-2) + y = 0$
 $-6 + y = 0$
 $y = 6$

Be sure to isolate a variable!!!!

- ① isolate one of the variables
- ② substitute the expression into the other equation
- ③ solve the resulting equation
- ④ plug back in and solve for the other variable

Solve the following systems by elimination. ** look for opposites*

(4,0)

$$\begin{array}{r} 5. \quad 4x + 3y = 16 \\ + \quad 2x - 3y = 8 \\ \hline 6x = 24 \\ \boxed{x = 4} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2(4) - 3y = 8 \\ 8 - 3y = 8 \\ -3y = 0 \\ \boxed{y = 0} \end{array}$$

(2,0)

$$\begin{array}{r} 6. \quad 2x - 3y = 4 \quad \cdot 2 \rightarrow 4x - 6y = 8 \\ -4x + 5y = -8 \\ \hline -1y = 0 \\ \boxed{y = 0} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -4x + 5(0) = -8 \\ -4x = -8 \\ \boxed{x = 2} \end{array}$$

(2,1)

line up!

$$\begin{array}{r} 7. \quad 3x + 2y = 8 \\ 2y = 12 - 5x \\ +5x \quad +5x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} (3x + 2y = 8) \cdot -1 \rightarrow -3x - 2y = -8 \\ 5x + 2y = 12 \\ \hline 2x = 4 \\ \boxed{x = 2} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2y = 12 - 5(2) \\ 2y = 12 - 10 \\ 2y = 2 \\ \boxed{y = 1} \end{array}$$