

Remember that you want to solve for the variable (unknown). First we have to isolate the variable on one side of the equal sign.

Example:

$$3x - 10 = 26$$

Add to isolate the term

$$\begin{array}{r} +10 \quad +10 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \cancel{3}x = \frac{36}{\cancel{3}} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$x = 36/12$$

$$x = 12$$

Divide to isolate variable

$$3x - 12 = 30$$

$$\text{Add...} \quad \begin{array}{r} +12 \quad +12 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\text{Divide} \quad \begin{array}{r} \cancel{3}x = \frac{18}{\cancel{3}} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$3x + 12 = 30$$

$$\text{Subtract} \quad \begin{array}{r} -12 \quad -12 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$4x + 10 = 26$$

Subtract

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$5x - 14 = 26$$

Add

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$5x + 14 = 26$$

Subtract

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$4x - 10 = 26$$

Add

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$6x - 10 = 14$$

Add

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$6x + 10 = 34$$

Subtract

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$

$$10x - 10 = 20$$

Add

Divide

$$x = \underline{\quad}$$