

Undo Addition

$$x + 5 = 8$$

1. Bring down the equal sign.

$$\begin{array}{r} x + 5 = 8 \\ = \end{array}$$

2. Subtract the inverse from both sides.

$$\begin{array}{r} x + 5 = 8 \\ - 5 = -5 \end{array}$$

3. Draw one line all the way across.

$$\begin{array}{r} x + 5 = 8 \\ \underline{- 5 = -5} \end{array}$$

4. Bring down the variable and the = sign.

$$\begin{array}{r} x + 5 = 8 \\ \underline{- 5 = -5} \\ x = \end{array}$$

5. Do the math problem ($8 - 5 = 3$).

$$\begin{array}{r} x + 5 = 8 \\ \underline{- 5 = -5} \\ x = 3 \end{array}$$

Undo subtraction

$$x - 3 = 4$$

1. Bring down the equal sign.

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 3 = 4 \\ = \end{array}$$

2. Add the inverse to both sides.

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 3 = 4 \\ + 3 = +3 \end{array}$$

3. Draw one line all the way across.

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 3 = 4 \\ \underline{+ 3 = +3} \end{array}$$

4. Bring down the variable and the = sign.

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 3 = 4 \\ \underline{+ 3 = +3} \\ x = \end{array}$$

5. Do the math problem ($4 + 3 = 7$).

$$\begin{array}{r} x - 3 = 4 \\ \underline{+ 3 = +3} \\ x = 7 \end{array}$$