

Your goal is to get x by itself.

Get rid of everything **except** the x .

If possible, “clean up” each side first.

Ask two questions:

1) **What do I want to **get rid of**?**

2) **How is it held there?**

(Now use **opposite operation** to **get rid of it.**)

If held by **multiplication**, then **divide**.

If held by **division**, then **multiply**.

If held by **addition** or **subtraction**,

use **opposite sign** *of the term you want to **get rid of**.*