

Solving Linear Systems by Substitution Method

To use the Substitution Method, you can replace one variable with an equivalent expression containing the other variable. This makes a one-variable equation.

1. $y = 2x + 3$
 $y = -2x - 9$

$$\begin{array}{r} (2x+3) = -2x-9 \\ +2x \quad +2x \\ 4x+3 = -9 \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ 4x = -12 \\ \frac{4}{4} \quad \frac{4}{4} \\ x = -3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} y = 2(-3) + 3 \\ y = -6 + 3 \\ y = -3 \end{array}$$

The point of intersection is $(-3, -3)$.

- Substitute $2x+3$ for y in the 2nd equation.
- Solve for x .

- Remember that the solution must be a point (x, y).
- Pick one of the original equations.
- Substitute $x = -3$ into the equation.
- Solve for y .
- Write your solution as a point.

2. $x = 2y - 7$
 $2x + 4y = 10$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2(2y-7) + 4y = 10 \\ 4y - 14 + 4y = 10 \\ 8y - 14 = 10 \\ +14 \quad +14 \\ 8y = 24 \\ \frac{8}{8} \quad \frac{8}{8} \\ y = 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x = 2(3) - 7 \\ x = 6 - 7 \\ x = -1 \end{array}$$

The point of intersection is $(-1, 3)$.

- Substitute $2y-7$ for x in the 2nd equation.
- Solve for y .

- Remember that the solution must be a point (x, y).
- Pick one of the equations.
- Substitute $y = 3$ into the equation.
- Solve for x .
- Write your solution as a point.

→ The solution to a system of equations is the POINT OF INTERSECTION of the two lines on the graph. This point is the only solution that makes BOTH equations TRUE!!