

5.3 Solving Systems of Linear Equations (Elimination)

Steps for solving a system of equations by elimination:

- 1) Multiply, if necessary, one or both equations by a constant so at least 1 pair of like terms have the opposite coefficients.
- 2) Add the equations to eliminate one of the variables.
- 3) Solve the resulting equation for the remaining variable.
- 4) Substitute the value from step 3 into one of the original equations and solve.

Solve the system of linear equations by elimination. Check your solution.

1) $x - y = 4$
 $x + y = 2$

2) $x + 3y = 5$
 $2x - 3y = 1$

3) $4x - y = 7$
 $4x - 2y = 2$

4) $2x + 3y = -2$
 $3x - y = -14$

$$\begin{aligned} 5) \quad x - 3y &= 1 \\ 4x + 5y &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 6) \quad 3x - 5y &= 9 \\ 6x - 6y &= 6 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 7) \quad 3x - y &= 0 \\ -3x + 5y &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 8) \quad 2y &= -5x - 3 \\ 4x - 2 &= -6y \end{aligned}$$

9) For what values of a and b should you solve the system by elimination?

$$\begin{aligned} a) \quad 3x + 5y &= 10 \\ 2x + ay &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b) \quad -4x - 3y &= 9 \\ bx + 7y &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$a = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

$$b = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$