

Pre-algebra
Skill-Builder # 1 – 7
Performing Combined Operations on Integers

Follow the order of operations

Parentheses
Exponentiation
Multiplication/**D**ivision
Addition/**S**ubtraction

Note:

- a. Multiplication and division as well as addition and subtraction are performed in the order in which they appear from left to right.
- b. When there is more than one set of parentheses or symbols of grouping, perform the operation(s) inside the innermost parentheses or symbols of grouping first.

Examples

1) $-3 \cdot 7 + 12 \div (-6)$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} & \underbrace{-3 \cdot 7} + \underbrace{12 \div (-6)} \\ & = -21 + (-2) && \text{Multiply and Divide first.} \\ & = -23 && \text{Then Add.} \end{aligned}$$

2) $-4 \cdot 3^2 \div 6 \cdot 5$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} & -4 \cdot \underbrace{3^2} \div 6 \cdot 5 \\ & = \underbrace{-4 \cdot 9} \div 6 \cdot 5 && \text{Perform the Exponentiation first.} \\ & = \underbrace{-36 \div 6} \cdot 5 && \text{Multiply and Divide as the operations appear} \\ & = -6 \cdot 5 && \text{from left to right.} \\ & = -30 \end{aligned}$$

3) $8 - 5(4 - (6 - 9))$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} & 8 - 5 \left(4 - \underbrace{(6 - 9)} \right) \\ & = 8 - 5 \left(4 - \underbrace{(-3)} \right) && \text{Perform the Subtraction inside the innermost Parentheses.} \\ & && \text{4+3} \\ & = 8 - \underbrace{5 \cdot 7} && \text{Perform the Subtraction inside the outermost Parentheses.} \\ & = 8 - 35 && \text{Multiply next.} \\ & = -27 && \text{Finally Subtract.} \end{aligned}$$

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Find the following.

1) $-25 \div 5 + (-6) \cdot (-4)$

2) $-8 \cdot 4 - 16 \div (-2)$

3) $3^2 + (4 - 9)^2$

4) $(2 - 6)^2 - (3 - 4)^2$

5) $-50 \div 5 \cdot (5 - 2)$

6) $(8 - 2)^2 \div (-9) \cdot (3)$

7) $\frac{2^2 - (3^2 - 2^3)}{-2 - (3 - 2)}$

8) $\frac{2 \cdot 5^2 - (8 - (4 - 2))}{-2^4 + 2 \cdot 3 - 1}$

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Answer Key:

1) 19

2) -24

3) 34

4) 15

5) -30

6) -12

7) -1

8) -4