

MPM 2D

SOLVING A LINEAR SYSTEM BY ELIMINATION

To solve a linear system by elimination, follow these steps:

Example 1:

Solve the system:

$$2x - 3y = 5$$

$$y = 13 - 3x$$

- ① Number the 2 equations.
Rewrite the equations, one above the other, so that the x terms are lined up, the y terms are lined up and the constants are lined up.
- ② Multiply each equation by a value to equalize either the x terms or equalize the y terms. **Indicate the MULTIPLIER for each equation.**
- ③ Add OR subtract the 2 equations to cancel one of the variables, and then solve the remaining equation for the unknown variable.
- ④ Substitute the answer from step 3 into either equation in step 2 to solve for the other unknown variable.
- ⑤ Check your solution with the original equations. State the coordinates of the point of intersection.

EXAMPLE 2: Solve the linear system by elimination. Check your solution.

$$\begin{aligned}4x - y + 21 &= 0 \\6x + 5y &= 1\end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 3: Solve the linear system by elimination.

$$\begin{aligned}x + 2(y - 5) &= 0 \\2(x - 3) &= 3y\end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 4: Solve the linear system by elimination.

$$\begin{aligned}2x - 3(y + 2) &= 5 \\5(x - 2) + 2(2y + 1) &= 8\end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE 5: Solve the linear system by elimination.

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 4(y + 2) &= 0 \\\frac{x}{4} &= 2 - \frac{y}{2}\end{aligned}$$