### 6.3 SOLVING MULTI-STEP LINEAR EQUATIONS

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In this section we are going to look at more complicated examples of linear equations that involve using multiple steps and all the techniques we've learnt so far to find a solution.

The aim of the game:
Use the algebraic techniques we have been working with in this unit to isolate the variable on one side of the equation and the numeric terms on the other side of the equation

## A) VARIABLES ON BOTH SIDES

Many multi-step equations contain variables on $\qquad$ sides.

So how do we decide which to isolate?

## COLLECT LIKE TERMS!

Move all variables to the same side and all constant (numbers only) terms to the other side!
EXAMPLE:
a) $3 m+3=7 m+12$
b) $-5 m+20=-7 m-15$

## PRACTICE

120. Solve. $5 m+1=3 m-7$

121. Solve. $13 m+5=11 m-7$
122. $2 m+3=-7 m-15$
123. Solve. $2 m+10=7 m-15$
124. Solve. $-3 m+18=6 m-6$

## B) BRACKETS, FRACTIONS VARIABLES ON BOTH SIDES...OH MY!

Now that the equations are getting more complex, it may helpful to review these steps.

- Eliminate Fractions by multiplying both sides by the common denominator.
- Eliminate brackets by Expanding.
- Collect Like Terms on each side of the equal sign.
- Get variables to same side by Subtracting or Adding variables to each side.
- Get constants to same side by Subtracting or Adding constants to each side.
- Isolate the variable by Dividing both sides by the coefficient.


## EXAMPLE:

a) $2(6 w+2)=4 w-3$

PRACTICE
142. Solve. $4(m-1)-6 m=-10(2 m-1)-1$
143. Solve. $3(m-1)+6 m=5(2 m-1)+1$
b) $\frac{2}{3}+\frac{5}{6} c=\frac{1}{3} c-\frac{1}{6}$
c) $2(m-1)+\frac{5 m}{2}=\frac{2}{3}(m+3)$
158. $\frac{5 m}{2}+\frac{m}{3}=\frac{1}{2} m+5$

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\text { 160. } m-\frac{m}{3}=\frac{1}{4} m+4
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## 0) MULTI-STEP LINEAR EQUATION WORD PROBLEMS

## Example 1:

The rectangles pictured have the same perimeter.
a) Determine the value of $x$ that makes this true.

b) What are the dimensions of each rectangle?

## Example 2:

Ted and Wayne are both travelling across British Columbia. Ted drives at an average speed of $90 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$. Wayne left 30 minutes later and drove at an average speed of $100 \mathrm{~km} / \mathrm{h}$.
a) How long did it take for Wayne to catch up with Ted?
b) How far have they driven to this point?


