

Solving Equations: Tips

- Always CHECK YOUR WORK!!!
 - It is really easy to make silly mistakes while solving equations.
 - An easy way to check your work is to take your answer (value of the variable) and plug it back into the variable of the equation that you started with.
 - If you get the same answer (equal on both sides of the equation), your answer for the value of the variable is correct!
- Don't skip steps.
 - It seems really easy to not include a step while solving equations, but is actually really important.
 - First, your teacher may want you to show your work and you may get some points for showing it. If you don't show your work, your teacher can't help you find where you made your mistake.
 - Second, it is really easy to mess up solving equations. One small mistake, and the entire problem is wrong. If you show all of your work, you will be able to check yourself and make sure that no mistakes are made!
- Analyze word problems!
 - Sometimes, word problems seem to be really hard to understand, but they are just using the words that you have learned before!
 - If you go back to the basics and remember the words that represent each operation, those are the keywords that help you figure out which operation to use when solving equations.
 - Just read the problem 3 times carefully, and you should be able to fully understand it and figure out what to do!