



# EQUATIONS

At this level, you will be rearranging equations sourced from mathematics and science.

EquationExplanation $A = \frac{(a+b)h}{2}$ Area of a trapezium. $L = (2n-1)\frac{\lambda}{4}$ Standing sound waves.

# STRATEGIES TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS

When rearranging equations, the goal is to:

Isolate the desired variable (unknown) to one side of the equal sign.

We will see over the next few levels that we follow the order:

- First: isolate the term that contains the desired variable (unknown).
- Second: isolate the desired variable (unknown).

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Example 1

Rearrange the equation to make a the subject.

x = a(b+5)

#### Step 1

Generally, it is best not to expand brackets when the desired variable is outside the bracket. You will sometimes have to factorise (which we will see at a later level).

To isolate the variable a we divide both sides by (b+5).





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Example 2

Rearrange the equation to make a the subject.

x = 3(2a - 4)

Step 1

If the desired variable is inside the bracket, multiply out the bracket.



#### Step 2

To isolate the term containing the variable a add 12 to both sides of the equation.



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Step 3

To isolate the variable a divide both sides of the equation by 6.





Simplify by common factors.

$$\frac{x+12}{6} = a$$

$$\frac{x}{6} + \frac{12}{6} = a$$

$$\frac{x}{6} + 2 = a$$

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J. Rearrange the equation to make	V. Rearrange the equation to make
a the subject.	y the subject. $a = 2(a - 2a)$
g = 3(a - 2b) + 5	a = 2(x - 3y)
	<pre></pre>
	<u>}</u>
<pre></pre>	<pre></pre>
7 Regrange the equation to make	8 Regrange the equation to make
<b>i</b> . Rearrange the equation to make	<b>O</b> . Rearrange the equation to make
x the subject.	a the subject.
$\frac{d}{d} = x(4a+3)$	$A = \frac{(a+b)n}{a}$
a	§ 2
<pre></pre>	
<u>}</u>	
	}
	<pre>}</pre>
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### Solutions to Essential Revision

§1.	x = 7	2.	$L = \frac{Q}{m}$
3.	y = z - x	4.	$\theta = \frac{180l}{\pi r}$
5.	$\sin A = \frac{a \sin B}{b}$	6.	<i>y</i> = 16
7.	$t = \frac{q}{L}$	8.	b = T - a - c - d
<u>9.</u>	$m = \frac{Q}{c\Delta T}$	10.	$v_1 = \frac{v_2 \sin i}{\sin r}$
§11.	x = 42	12.	W = Vq

### Solutions to Questions

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$1.  x = \frac{a}{2} + 3y$	$2.  d = \frac{c}{x(4a+3)}$
3. $h = \frac{2A}{a+b}$	4. $\lambda = \frac{4L}{2n-1}$
5. $a = \frac{g-5}{3} + 2b$	$6.  y = -\frac{a}{6} + \frac{x}{3}$
$7.  x = \frac{c}{d(4a+3)}$	8. $a = \frac{2A}{h} - b$
9. $n=\frac{2L}{\lambda}+\frac{1}{2}$	$10.  b = -\frac{g}{6} + \frac{a}{2} + \frac{5}{6}$
11. $a = \frac{c}{4dx} - \frac{3}{4}$	$\begin{cases} 12.  b = \frac{2A}{h} - a \end{cases}$

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