Solving and Graphing Linear Inequalities

Solving One-Step Linear Inequalities

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What's an inequality?

 Is a range of values, rather than ONE set number
An algebraic relation showing that a quantity is greater than or less than another quantity.

Speed limit:

 $55 \le x \le 75$





Symbols

Less than

Greater than



Less than OR EQUAL TO

Greater than OR EQUAL TO



All real numbers less than 2

x< 2



Solutions continued...



All real numbers greater than -2

x > -2





Solutions continued....



All real numbers less than or equal to 1

 $x \leq 1$





All real numbers greater than or equal to -3

$$x \ge -3$$



If the symbol is \geq or \leq then the dot is solid, because it can be that point too.

Write and Graph a Linear Inequality

Sue ran a 2-K race in 8 minutes. Write an inequality to describe the average speeds of runners who were faster than Sue. Graph the inequality.



Solving an Inequality

Solving a linear inequality in one variable is much like solving a linear equation in one variable. **Isolate the variable on one side using inverse operations.**

Solve using addition:

x - 3 < 5

Add the same number to EACH side.

$$x - 3 < 5$$

+3 +3

x < 8



Solving Using Subtraction

Subtract the same number from EACH side.

 $x + 6 \ge 10$

-6 -6

 $x \geq 4$



Using Subtraction...

 $x + 5 \ge 3$ Graph the solution.



-5 -4 -3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4



Using Addition...

-2 > n-4

Graph the solution.





THE TRAP.....

When you **multiply or divide** each side of an inequality by a **negative number**, you must **reverse the inequality symbol** to maintain a true statement.





Solving using Multiplication

Multiply each side by the same positive number.

(2) $\frac{1}{2}x > 3$ (2) x > 6





Solving Using Division

Divide each side by the same positive number.

 $\frac{3x \le 9}{3}$ $x \le 3$





Solving by multiplication of a negative

Multiply each side by the same **negative number** and **REVERSE** the inequality symbol.

 $(-1) - \chi < 4 (-1)$ Multiply by (-1). See the switch



Solving by dividing by a negative

Divide each side by the same **negative number** and **reverse** the inequality symbol.



 $x \geq 3$



Homework

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