

8.4 More Two-Step Equations: Word Problems

Example: DeAndre is ordering tickets to a concert. He buys 3 tickets that all have the same price. There is a service charge of \$4.75 per ticket. The total cost of his order is \$111.75. What is the price of each ticket?
Let m be the price of each ticket.

$$\frac{3(m + 4.75)}{3} = \frac{111.75}{3}$$

$$m + 4.75 = 37.25$$

$$-4.75 \quad -4.75$$

$$m = 32.50$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 37.25 \\ 3 \overline{)111.75} \\ \underline{-96} \\ 21 \\ \underline{-21} \\ 075 \\ \underline{-69} \\ 150 \\ \underline{-150} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Example: Natasha buys 5 bottles of orange juice. She has coupons of \$0.65 off the regular price of each bottle of juice. After using the coupons, the total cost of the orange juice is \$6.20. What is the regular price of a bottle of orange juice?

Let c be the regular price of a bottle of orange juice.

$$\frac{5(c - 0.65)}{5} = \frac{6.20}{5}$$

$$c - 0.65 = 1.24$$

$$+0.65 \quad +0.65$$

$$c = 1.89$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 1.24 \\ 5 \overline{)6.20} \\ \underline{-5} \\ 12 \\ \underline{-10} \\ 20 \\ \underline{-20} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Example: Tony buys 4 shirts at a clearance sale. Each shirt is discounted \$3.50 off the regular price. The total cost is \$65. What is the regular price of a shirt?

Let s be the regular price of the shirt.

$$4(s - 3.50) = 65$$

$$4s - 14 = 65$$

$$+14 \quad +14$$

$$4s = 79$$

$$\frac{4s}{4} = \frac{79}{4}$$

$$s = 19.75$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ 3.50 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 14.00 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 19.75 \\ 4 \overline{) 79.00} \\ \underline{-4} \\ 39 \\ \underline{-36} \\ 30 \\ \underline{-28} \\ 20 \\ \underline{-20} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

Example: Mr. Vargas takes his class of 24 students ice skating. Each student pays an entrance fee to enter the rink and a \$4 fee to rent skates. The total cost for the students to enter the rink and rent skates is \$216. What is the ice-skating rink's entrance fee?

Let k be the rink's entrance fee.

$$24(k + 4) = 216$$

$$\frac{24(k + 4)}{24} = \frac{216}{24}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 24 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 96 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{r} 3 \\ 24 \\ \times 9 \\ \hline 216 \end{array}$$

$$k + 4 = 9$$

$$-4 \quad -4$$

$$k = 5$$

Example: Vanessa makes 7 identical flower arrangements for the tables at a banquet. Each arrangement contains some roses and 9 tulips. Vanessa uses a total of 147 flowers to make the arrangements. How many roses are in each arrangement?

Let r be the roses in each arrangement.

$$\frac{7(r+9)}{7} = \frac{147}{7}$$

$$r+9 = 21$$

$$\begin{array}{r} r+9 = 21 \\ -9 \quad -9 \\ \hline r = 12 \text{ roses} \end{array}$$

Example: Brody drives the same distance to and from work each day. He also drives an additional 1.5 miles each day to go to the gym. During a 5-day workweek Brody drives a total of 71.25 miles. What is the distance to and from work?

Let w be the distance to and from work.

$$\frac{5(w+1.5)}{5} = \frac{71.25}{5}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} w+1.5 = 14.25 \\ -1.5 \quad -1.50 \\ \hline w = 12.75 \text{ miles} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 14.25 \\ 5 \overline{) 71.25} \\ \underline{-50} \\ 21 \\ \underline{-20} \\ 12 \\ \underline{-10} \\ 25 \\ \underline{-25} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$w = 12.75 \text{ miles}$$