

Solving Linear Inequalities

Remember that you switch the inequality sign if you are...

- Multiplying by a negative number
- Dividing by a negative number
- Switching the left and right sides of an inequality

Example One

Solve $30 \geq 2x + 10$

Subtract 10 from both sides

Divide both sides by 2

Switch the left and right sides

$$30 \geq 2x + 10$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -10 \\ -10 \end{array}$$

$$20 \geq 2x$$

$$\frac{20}{2} \geq \frac{2x}{2}$$

$$10 \geq x$$

$$\mathbf{x \leq 10}$$

Example Two

Solve $-2(2x - 3) < 5$

Distribute -2

Subtract 6 from both sides

Divide both sides by -2

Switch the inequality sign!

$$-2(2x - 3) < 5$$

$$-2x + 6 < 5$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -6 \\ -6 \end{array}$$

$$-2x < -1$$

$$\frac{-2x}{-2} > \frac{-1}{-2}$$

$$\mathbf{x > \frac{1}{2}}$$

Example Three

Solve $2x - 13 \leq -3x + 2$

Add $3x$ to both sides

Add 13 to both sides

Divide both sides by 5

$$2x - 13 \leq -3x + 2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +3x \\ +3x \end{array}$$

$$5x - 13 \leq 2$$

$$\begin{array}{r} +13 \\ +13 \end{array}$$

$$5x \leq 15$$

$$\frac{5x}{5} \leq \frac{15}{5}$$

$$\mathbf{x \leq 3}$$

Solve the following inequalities.

1. $25 < 2x + 5$

2. $-x - 7 \geq -9$

3. $14x + 2 < -26$

4. $-4 + \frac{1}{2}x \geq -12$

5. $10 > 2(x - 1)$

6. $-(2x - 6) \geq -14$

7. $\frac{1}{6}(12x + 6) > 7$

8. $4 \leq -\frac{3}{8}(16x - 8)$

9. $5 - x > 9 + x$

10. $-4 + 5x \geq 3 - x$

11. $4x + 1 < 2x + 5$

12. $\frac{1}{2}x \leq 2 + x$