

Properties

Name	Hints	Example	Notes
Associative "Grouping"	You "associate" with different groups.	$5 + (15 + 4) =$ $(5 + 15) + 4$	Works with addition and multiplication, not subtraction or division.
Commutative "Ordering"	Since Commutative has an "o" in it, think "order".	$5 + 4 + 3 =$ $4 + 3 + 5$	Works with addition and multiplication, not subtraction or division.
Distributive "Distributing or Pushing Through Parentheses"	Think of "distributing" something to your friends.	$5 \times (3 + 4) =$ $5 \times 3 + 5 \times 4 =$ $15 + 20 = 35$  $5 - 2(x - 3) =$ $5 - 2x + 6$ $5x + 7x =$ $(5 + 7)x = 12x$	When negatives are on the outside of the parenthesis, make sure you distribute the negatives to second number, too. Remember that multiplying two negatives results in a positive.
Identity "Staying the Same"	You always come back to your "identity".	$9 + 0 = 9$ $9 \times 1 = 9$	Additive identity is 0. Multiplicative identity is 1.
Inverse "Undoing"	When you put your car in "inverse", you go backwards.	$9 + -9 = 0$ $9 \times \frac{1}{9} = 1$	Additive inverse is $-a$, since $-a + a = 0$. Multiplicative inverse is $\frac{1}{a}$, since $\frac{1}{a} \times \frac{a}{1} = 1$. Note that the inverse of $\frac{a}{b}$ is $\frac{b}{a}$, since $\frac{a}{b} \times \frac{b}{a} = 1$.

● L5-1 Properties

A) Associative - grouping

+	x
$5 + (15 + 4) = (5 + 15) + 4$ $\swarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $5 + 19 = 20 + 4$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $24 = 24$	$2(4 \cdot 1) = (2 \cdot 4)1$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $2(4) = (8)(1)$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $8 = 8$

B) Commutative - ORDER

+	x
$5 + 4 + 3 = 4 + 3 + 5$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $9 + 3 = 7 + 5$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $12 = 12$	$5(4)(3) = (4)(3)(5)$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $20(3) = 12(5)$ $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$ $60 = 60$ ☺