

Inverse operations

Add, subtract, multiply and divide are sometimes called **operations**. An **inverse operation** is an operation that will take you back to the number you started with.

For example:

$$\textcircled{3} \quad + \quad 2 \quad = \quad 5$$

number operation result

$$5 \quad - \quad 2 \quad = \quad \textcircled{3}$$

result inverse operation number

or

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \times \quad 2 \quad = \quad 6$$

 operation

$$6 \quad \div \quad 2 \quad = \quad \textcircled{3}$$

 inverse operation

Find the inverse for these calculations:

$4 + 2 = 6$

$\text{Inverse } 6 - 2 = 4$

$4 \times 3 = 12$

$\text{Inverse } 12 \div 3 = 4$

$9 - 7$

$9 \div 3$

$10 + 14$

10×6

$99 - 60$

$100 \div 10$

$4 \times 3 - 1 = 11$

$\text{Inverse } (11+1) \div 3 = 4$

$6 \times 2 + 4 - 3 = 13$

$\text{Inverse } (13+3-4) \div 2 = 6$

$10 \times 2 \times 4$

$100 \div 4 \div 5 + 3$

$15 \div 3 + 2$

$48 \div 2 + 6 - 7$

$20 + 4 - 6$

$3 \times 6 \times 2 \div 9$

Tip: Use brackets to show when you want to add or subtract before you multiply or divide.

EXTRA!

Make up some sums of your own and find the inverse operations.