

Order of Operations

1st: *Parentheses*

Simplify any expressions inside parentheses.

2nd: *Exponents*

Work out any exponents.

3rd: *Multiplication and Division*

Solve all multiplication and division, working from left to right.

4th: *Addition and Subtraction*

These are done last, from left to right.

For example,

$$\begin{aligned} & 15 - 2 \cdot 3 + (30 - 3) \div 3^2 \\ & = 15 - 2 \cdot 3 + 27 \div 9 \\ & = 15 - 6 + 3 \\ & = 12. \end{aligned}$$