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Algebraic Expressions

Parts of an algebraic expression are called **terms**.

Like terms are terms that have the same variables raised to the same exponents.

Example: $9x - 2 + 7 - x$

Terms: $9x$, -2 , 7 , $-x$

Like Terms: $9x$ and $-x$, -2 and 7

Simplifying an Algebraic Expression

*Note: When simplified, an expression will have **no like terms** and **no parentheses**.*

To combine like terms, use:

*the **Distributive Property!***

Example: $14 - 3n + 8 + n$

1st- Rewrite as a sum: $14 + (-3n) + 8 + n$

2nd-Use commutative: $14 + 8 + (-3n) + n$

3rd-Distributive Prop: $14 + 8 + \{-3 + 1\}n$

4th-Combine Like Terms: $22 - 2n$