



Integer Operations

KEY IDEA

Integers are the counting numbers, their negatives, and zero. Adding and subtracting move along the number line; multiplying and dividing follow the sign rules: same signs give a positive result, different signs give a negative result. Absolute value is a number's distance from zero, so it is never negative — $|-7| = 7$ and $|7| = 7$.

How to do it

1. For addition and subtraction, rewrite subtraction as adding the opposite: $a - b = a + (-b)$, then combine.
2. For multiplication and division, multiply or divide the absolute values first, then decide the sign: same signs give a positive answer, different signs give a negative answer.
3. Absolute value bars are grouping symbols — simplify what is inside completely, then drop the sign.
4. Check the sign of your answer separately from its size; that is where most integer mistakes happen.

Worked examples**Example 1.** $-4 - 1$

 -5 **Example 2.** $(8)(-7)$

 -56 **Example 3.** $2 - (4)$

 -2 **Example 4.** $5 - (-4)$

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Directions: Simplify each expression.

1. $9 - 4$	2. $-7 - (9)$	3. $(14)(5)$
4. $4 - (-11)$	5. $(-1)(-5)$	6. $(-12)(-11)$
7. $-4 + 8$	8. $11 - 12$	9. $-9 - (9)$
10. $(5)(-5)$	11. $(11)(9)$	12. $14 - 10$
13. $6 - (10)$	14. $-1 - 4$	15. $-13 - 7$
16. $9 + 11$	17. $(-14)(3)$	18. $(8)(-9)$
19. $-9 - (12)$	20. $3 - (2)$	21. $-11 - 10$
22. $2 - (-10)$	23. $-10 \div -5$	24. $2 - (5)$
25. $-11 - (-7)$	26. $7 + 8$	27. $-13 - 9$
28. $9 - 6$	29. $-5 + 1$	30. $(-11)(-9)$
31. $-12 + 12$	32. $6 - (6)$	33. $-6 - (-2)$
34. $5 - (3)$	35. $9 \div 1$	36. $-9 + 3$
37. $-14 - (1)$	38. $(-7)(2)$	39. $-12 + 4$
40. $-3 - (1)$	41. $2 \div 2$	42. $11 - (-2)$
43. $7 - 1$	44. $-3 - 11$	45. $3 - (5)$

