REMEMBER - When solving equations, the object is to get the variable alone ON ONE SIDE OF THE EQUATION.

LOOK WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE VARIABLE IS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE EQUATION

\[ 5x + 3 = 2x + 9 \]

REMEMBER - We need to get the variable on ONE SIDE

You can use addition or subtraction to remove the variable from one side of the equation.

\[
\begin{align*}
5x + 3 &= 2x + 9 \\
-2x &\quad -2x \\
3x + 3 &= 9 \\
-3 &\quad -3 \\
3x &= 6 \\
\therefore x &= 6 \\
\frac{3}{3} &\quad \text{divide by 3} \\
x &= 2
\end{align*}
\]

REMEMBER - Simplify first

\[
\begin{align*}
3x + 2 + 7x - 8 &= 3(x + 4) - 4 \\
3x + 2 + 7x - 8 &= 3x + 12 - 4 \\
\text{distributive property} \\
3x + 2 + 7x - 8 &= 3x + 12 - 4 \\
\text{add op} \\
10x + 6 &= 3x + 8 \\
-3x &\quad -3x \\
7x + 6 &= 8 \\
7x + -6 &= 8 \\
+6 &\quad +6 \\
7x &= 14 \\
\therefore x &= 2 \\
\frac{7}{7} &\quad \text{divide by 7} \\
x &= 2
\end{align*}
\]