**Solving For a Variable in One Step**

To solve for any variable, isolate the variable by using PEMDAS, Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally (Order of Operations), backwards. Remember, when completing an operation on one side, you must complete the opposite operation on the other side of the equal sign.

x + 3 = 9

 - 3 -3 Subtract 3 from both sides of the equation

 x = 6

x -3 = 9 3x = 9 x =9
 +3 +3 3 3 3 Multiply each side by 3.
 x = 12 x = 3 (3)x = 9 (3)
 3

 x = 27

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Grocers or Grocery Shoppers – When shopping you determine what is needed and you add to your pantry or grocery items at your home. When checking out to pay for groceries, you must put your produce on a scale to weigh it and see how much it will cost, determined by the cost per pound, ounce, etc. If you have a certain amount of money and you know that you could buy more of the item, you can determine how many more by multiplying the per cost item by the number of items. If an item is discounted, you can deduct the discount from the cost to see what you would really pay. Grocers must display the cost per unit on the tag that is by the product.