

Strategy for Solving a Linear System in Three Variables

1. Use substitution or addition to eliminate any one of the variables from a pair of equations of the system. Look for the easiest variable to eliminate.
2. Eliminate the same variable from another pair of equations of the system.
3. Solve the resulting system of two equations in two unknowns.
4. After you have found the values of the variables, substitute into one of the **original** equations to find the value of the third variable.
5. Check the three values in all of the original equations.