Solving Linear Inequalities





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Some Application of Inequalities

Inequalities are used more often in real life than equalities:

- Businesses use inequalities to control inventory, plan production lines, produce pricing models, and for shipping.
- Linear programming is a branch of mathematics that uses systems of linear inequalities to solve real-world problems.
- Financial occupations often require the use of linear inequalities such as accountants, auditors, budget analysts and insurance underwriters to determine pricing and set budgets.

Inequality Symbols



What is a linear Inequality ?

- Linear inequality is an inequality which involves a linear function (with first power).
- Linear inequality contains one of the symbols of inequality
- The solution of a linear inequality in two variable like
 Ax+By>C is an ordered pair (x,y) that make an inequality

true.

Solving Linear Inequalities For One Variable

- Solve the inequality as you would an equation which means that "whatever you do to one side, you must do to the other side".
- If you multiply or divide by a negative number, REVERSE the inequality symbol.
- We can write the answer in interval notation.

Steps for Graphing Solution on Number Line

- Use an open circle on the graph if your inequality symbol is greater than or less than.
- Use a closed circle on the graph if your inequality symbol is greater than or equal to OR less than or equal to.
- Arrow will point to the left if the inequality symbol is less than.
- Arrow will point to the right if the inequality symbol is greater than.

Example

5 - x < 4		Original Problem
5 - 5 - x < 4 - 5 $\frac{-x}{-1} < \frac{-1}{-1}$ x > 1	Interval Notation (1, ∞)	Subtract 5 from BOTH sides Divide by -1 to make positive. You MUST REVERSE the SIGN since you are dividing by a negative number.
Check: 5 - x < 4 5 - 2 < 4 3 < 4		Substitute a number greater than 1, I chose 2. Since 3 is less than 4, this is a true statement and my answer is correct.

How to Solve and Graph a linear Inequality for Ty Variable:

- Rearrange the equation so "y" is on the left and everything else on the right.
- Plot the "y=" line (make it a solid line for y≤ or y≥, and a dashed line for y< or y>).
- Shade above the line for a "greater than" (y> or
 y≥) or below the line for a "less than" (y< or y≤).

Example $2y - x \le 6$

We will need to rearrange this one so "y" is on its own on the left:

- Start with: $2y x \le 6$
- Add x to both sides: $2y \le x + 6$
- ♦ Divide all by 2: $y \le x/2 + 3$



Plot the line y=x/2+3 (as a solid line because \leq includes equal to), then shade the area below because y is less than or equal.