

Solving Literal Equations and Formulas:

Given $D = rt$, solve for r .

We want to isolate the r still using inverse operations.

$$\frac{D}{t} = \frac{rt}{t}$$

t is being multiplied by r
so to undo the multiplication we
divided by t . This causes it to cancel
from the right side of the equation.

Since D and t are variables
they won't divide so we just
leave them like this

→ $\frac{D}{t} = r$ or $r = \frac{D}{t}$

In other words...the rate is equal to the distance divided by the time

Examples

1) $C = 2\pi r$ for r

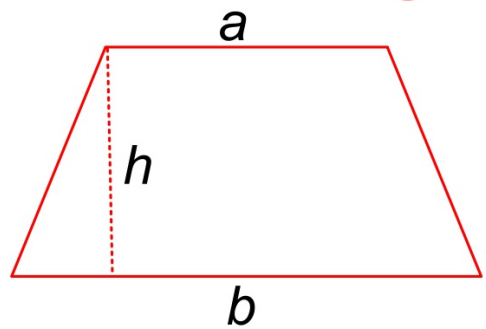
2) $-5a + y = -54$ for y

$$3) 9a - 2b = c + 4a \text{ for } a$$

$$4) \frac{5x + y}{a} = 2 \text{ for } a$$

3) The area of a trapezoid is found using the following formula.

$$A = \frac{1}{2}(a + b)h$$



a) Solve the formula for h.

b) What is the height of a trapezoid with an area of 60m^2 and bases of 8 meters and 12 meters?