

- 1 EXAMPLE** Solve the formula for the volume of a rectangular prism $V = \ell wh$ for width w in terms of its volume V , length ℓ , and its height h .

$$V = \ell wh$$

$$\frac{V}{\ell} = \frac{\ell wh}{\ell} \quad \text{Divide each side by } \ell, \ell \neq 0.$$

$$\frac{V}{\ell} = wh \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

$$\frac{V}{\ell h} = \frac{wh}{h} \quad \text{Divide each side by } h, h \neq 0 \text{ to get } w \text{ alone on one side of the equation.}$$

$$\frac{V}{\ell h} = w \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

- 2 EXAMPLE** Solve $y = 4x - 3$ for x .

$$y + 3 = 4x - 3 + 3 \quad \text{Add 3 to each side.}$$

$$y + 3 = 4x \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

$$\frac{y + 3}{4} = \frac{4x}{4} \quad \text{Divide each side by 4.}$$

$$\frac{y + 3}{4} = x \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

- 3 EXAMPLE** Solve $z - br = p$ for b in terms of z , r , and p .

$$z - br - z = p - z \quad \text{Subtract } z \text{ from each side.}$$

$$-br = p - z \quad \text{Combine like terms.}$$

$$\frac{-br}{-r} = \frac{p-z}{-r} \quad \text{Divide each side by } -r.$$

$$b = -\frac{p-z}{r} \quad \text{Simplify.}$$