

PROBLEM SOLVING STEPS

1. Identify the Question.

Underline what the problem is asking you to solve. This is usually written as a question.

2. Look for the Information.

Find all the facts that are given. Decide if they are:

- Facts that are needed to solve the problem.
- Extra Facts that will not help solve the problem.

Decide if all the facts that are needed are given.

3. Plan a Method to Solve the Problem.

- Draw a picture or diagram.
- Decide how to solve the problem. Decide what operations (add, subtract, multiply, divide) you must use.
- Estimate what the answer would be. See if it makes sense.
- If the estimated answer does not make sense, try another plan to solve the problem.

4. Solve the Problem.

Apply your plan. Be sure to include units if needed, such as inches, feet, meters, etc.

5. Check the Logic of the Answer.

Reread the question and see if the answer seems correct.

6. Check your Answer.

Check all of the math computations for accuracy. Make sure that you have found what the question was asking. Make sure that the answer is clearly marked with the correct units for the answer.

