

Subtracting Integers

You can use this rule to subtract integers.

Rule: To subtract an integer, add its opposite.

Examples:

Find: $8 - (-3)$

The opposite of -3 is 3 .

Add: $8 + 3 = 11$

So, $8 - (-3) = 11$

Find: $-6 - 7$

The opposite of 7 is -7 .

Add: $-6 + (-7) = -13$

So, $-6 - 7 = -13$

Find: $-3 - (-9)$

The opposite of -9 is 9 .

Add: $-3 + 9 = 6$

So, $-3 - (-9) = 6$

Find each difference.

1. $5 - (-1)$

The opposite of -1 is 1

Add: $5 + \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$

2. $-10 - 3$

The opposite of 3 is $\underline{\quad}$

Add: $-10 + \underline{\quad} = \underline{\quad}$

3. $-7 - (-2)$

4. $-9 - 4$

5. $6 - (-10)$

6. $-1 - (-3)$

7. **Writing to Explain** Without computing, how do you know that the answer to $7 - (-15)$ is positive?

8. **Draw a Picture** In one football game the Wildcats gained 5 yards on one play, lost 8 yards on the next play, and gained 6 yards the next play. In all, how many yards did they gain or lose?
