

Rule	Example
$ x = -x $	$ 3 = -3 $
$ a-b = b-a $	$ 8-5 = 5-8 = 3$
$ x ^2 = x^2$	$ -3 ^2 = (-3)^2$
$ a = b \leftrightarrow a^2 = b^2$	$ -3 = 3 \leftrightarrow (-3)^2 = (3)^2$
$ x < a \leftrightarrow -a < x < a$	$ x < 3 \leftrightarrow -3 < x < 3$
$ x > a \leftrightarrow x < -a \text{ or } x > a$	$ x > 3 \leftrightarrow x < -3 \text{ or } x > 3$

NB: MUST ALSO APPLY THE RULES IN INEQUALITY operators which say that if you multiply or divide across by a negative number you must invert the inequality. All other operators leave it unchanged (addition or subtraction).