Equations with Variables on Both Sides and Brackets

In some equations you have variables on BOTH SIDES of the equal sign.

You must put all your variables on one side before you can solve.

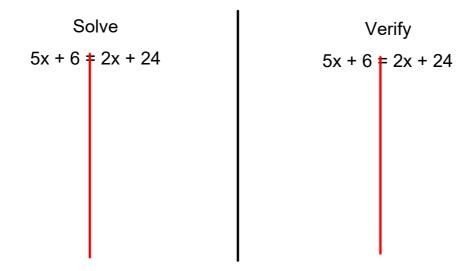
Some people prefer to have their variables on the left-hand side... some people move their variables to whichever side makes them positive... it does not matter, as long as your variables are together!

If you add "5a" to both sides, all the 'a's will be on the left and positive

$$a+5=-5a+5$$

If you subtract
"a" from both
sides all the 'a's will
be on the right and
negative

Both Ways Work!



Equations with Variables on Both Sides and Brackets

In some equations you need to use the distributive property to multiply out the bracket and 'clean up' before you can solve:

$$-18 - 6k = 6(1 + 3k)$$

verify

In some equations you need to use the distributive property to multiply out the bracket and 'clean up' before you can solve:

$$3(x-4) = 2(-2x+1)$$

verify