

Four-Step Problem-Solving Plan

<p>Step 1 Understand</p>	<p>Make sure you understand the problem</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you state the problem in your own words? • What are you trying to find or do? • What are the unknowns? • What information do you obtain from the problem? • What information, if any, is missing or not useful?
<p>Step 2 Plan</p>	<p>Make a plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look for a pattern. • Make a table. • Make a diagram. • Write a number sentence. • Use guess and check. • Work backward.
<p>Step 3 Solve</p>	<p>Carry out the plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use your strategy. • Check each step of the plan as you work.
<p>Step 4 Check</p>	<p>Is the solution reasonable?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does it fit the problem? • Does it answer what you asked? • Is there another way to solve? • Have I answered all questions the problem is asking? • Does your answer make sense? If no, repeat steps.