

Rules for adding and subtracting

1. Like

For like terms, just combine the large terms with like terms.
 $3x^2 + 5x^2 = 8x^2$ $4y - 2y = 2y$

2. Unlike

If two like terms are in a larger or smaller of one, add only
 $3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$ $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$

3. Unlike

If two like terms are in one, change the other to be the same type.
 $3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$ $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$

4. Like

If two like terms of the same kind are combined, simply combine them. If the terms do not have the same variable, do not combine them.
 $3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$ $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$

$3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$ $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$
 (Change all like to unlike terms) (Change all like to unlike terms)

Do not combine the like terms with the unlike terms.
 $3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$ $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$

$3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$

Change: (Change all like to unlike terms)

$3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$
 $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$
 $3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$
 $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$

$3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$
 $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$
 $3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$
 $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$

$3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$
 $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$
 $3x^2 + 4y = 3x^2 + 4y$
 $4y - 2x^2 = 4y - 2x^2$

Like
 (Change)

Unlike

Unlike

Like