

Simplifying Variable Expressions



Terms

(parts that are added together: including the variables)



Coefficients

(a term with a variable: think of a coworker, someone you work with)



Constants

(a number that **does not** have a variable attached to it)



Like Terms

(terms that have identical variable parts or 2 or more constant terms)

Example: $4x + 3 + x + 12$

Terms: $4x$, 3 , x , 12

Coefficients: $4x$ and x

Constants: 3 and 12

Like Terms: $4x$ and x , 3 and 12

Example: $-4k - 12 + 2k$

Terms: $-4k$, -12 , $2k$

Coefficient: $-4k$ and $2k$

Constants: -12

Like Terms: $-4k$ and $2k$