

Example/Question: When Can You Cross Multiply

Explain what a ratio is:

When can you cross-multiply?

Solve: $\frac{8}{x+2} - \frac{12}{x-4} = \frac{2}{x+2}$. Show that you CANNOT cross-multiply in this situation.

Now show why cross-multiplying works with $-\frac{x}{5} = \frac{3}{x+8}$