Bracketing Method

When more than two numbers are involved in an equation,
the bracketing method allows for easier step-by-step calculations
compared to attempting to do all calculations at once.

Example 1:

$$4(8-4) + 3 = x$$

1. **Determine the order of operations and set up brackets**

$$4(8-4) + 3 = x$$

#1 −

#2 ×

#3 +

2. **Calculate based on the order determined**

$$4(8-4) + 3 = 19$$
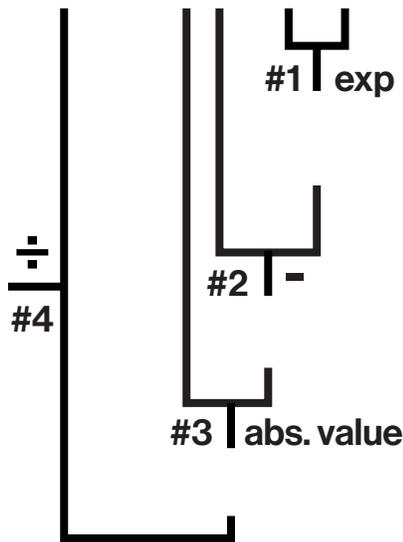
#1 −
4

#2 ×
16

#3 +
19

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Example 2:

$$(95 \div [|5 - \{5\}^2|]) = x$$

1. **Determine the order of operations and set up brackets**

$$(95 \div [|5 - \{5\}^2|]) = x$$

#1 exp

#2 -

#4 ÷

#3 abs. value

2. **Calculate based on the order determined**

$$(95 \div [|5 - \{5\}^2|]) = 4.75$$

#1 exp

25

#2 -

-20

#4 ÷ 4.75

#3 abs. value

20
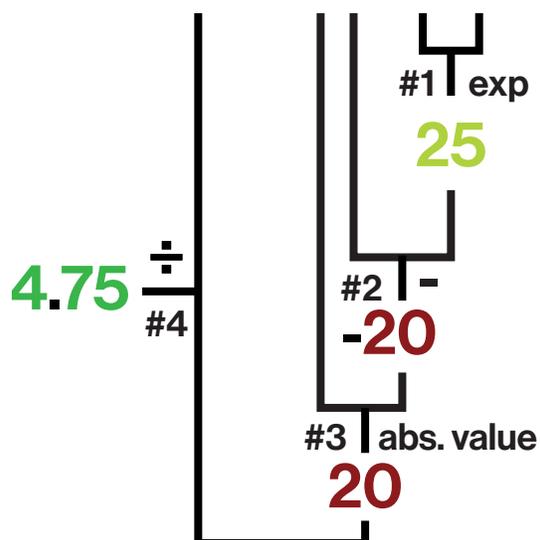
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Example 3:

$$\frac{10 - 24 + 72}{24 + 38 - 60} = x$$

1. **Determine the order of operations and set up brackets**

$$\frac{10 - 24 + 72}{24 + 38 - 60} = x$$

#1A −   #2A +   #1B +   #2B −   #3 ÷

2. **Calculate based on the order determined**

-14   #1A −   + 58   #2A

$$\frac{10 - 24 + 72}{24 + 38 - 60} = 29$$

#1B + 62   − 2   #2B   ÷ 29   #3