Section 7.6: Radical Equations and Problem Solving

Method for Solving Equations with Radicals

1) Isolate one of the radicals on one side of the equation. (An equation may have more than one radical.)
2) Raise both sides of the equation to the power corresponding to the index of the radicals.
3) If the equation still contains a radical, repeat Steps 1 and 2.
4) Solve the equation.
5) Check your solutions.

Extraneous Solution

An extraneous solution is a solution found when solving an equation that does not satisfy the original equation. It may be introduced by raising both sides of an equation to a power.

Example 1: Solve the following equations. Be sure to check your answers in the original equation.