

TI-85 Solver Instructions

Press 2nd Solver

eqn: $3x - 12 = 8$ (This is an equation left over from a previous use.)

CLEAR (Erase the equation.)

$2x^2 - 3x - 6 = 12x + 5$ This is the equation you want to solve for x

ENTER

X = 6.67876 (This is previous solution of some other equation.)

A cursor is flashing on the line above. It's waiting for you to enter a "guess." CLEAR the current value and type in any number you wish; or just leave the current number there.

Click F5 (Solve).

The guessed value of x will be replaced by the solution

x = 8.17295....

The equation is quadratic, so there are two solutions. The other one is

x = -0.67295

In this class, there never will be a problem to be solved in which a negative value of x is physically meaningful, so if you get a negative value of x following your first guess, make another guess, and keep guessing until the calculator finds the positive solution.