***Subtract Integers, Level 1***

**Example — Positive Subtract Positive**

 11 – 7

**Step 1** Eleven positive tiles.

**Step 2** Take away seven tiles

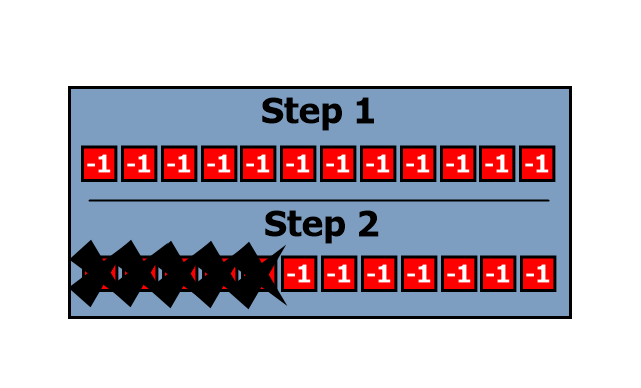
There are 4 left. So 11 – 7 equals 4.

**Practice — Positive Subtract Positive**

Draw a tile model to represent each problem. Write the difference (your answer) as a numeral.

**1)** 13 – 8 **2)** 19 – 7

**Example — Negative Subtract Negative**

 (-12) – (-5)

**Step 1** Twelve negative tiles

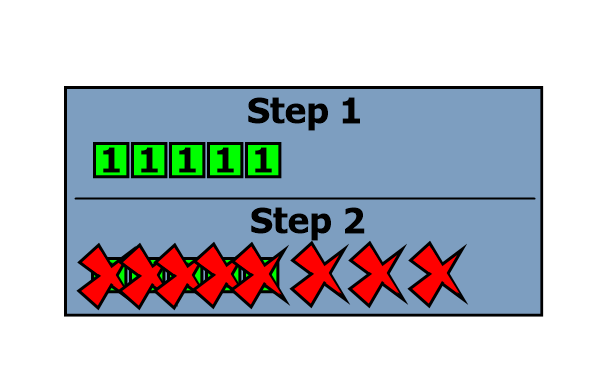
**Step 2** Take away five negative tiles.

Now there are 7 negative tiles. So (-12) – (-5) = (-7)

**Practice — Negative Subtract Negative**

Draw a tile model to represent each problem. Write the difference as a numeral.

**3)** (-11) – (-8) **4)** (-21) – (-7)

 **Example — Small Positive Subtract Large Positive**

5 – 8

**Step 1** Five positive tiles

**Step 2** We try to take away eight negative tiles. But there aren’t enough. We take away three more than we had. This is like having three negative tiles.

5 – 8 = (-3)

**Practice — Small Positive Subtract Large Positive**

Draw a tile model to represent each problem. Write the difference as a numeral.

**5)** 7 – 16 **6)** 2 – 18

**Main — Mixed Subtraction**

**7)** Refer back to the example question from the top of this page. Explain in your words why the answer is (-3).

**8)** Give an example of subtracting two positive numbers with a positive result. (Don’t reuse any subtraction questions that were already used in this lesson, of course. That’d be silly.)

**9)** Give an example of subtracting two positive numbers with a negative result.

For questions #10 through #18, give the difference (the answer). Drawing a tile model is optional.

**10)** (-19) – (-6) **11)** 3 – 9 **12)** (-39) – 0

**13)** 15 – 38 **14)** (-17) – (-17) **15)** (-39) – (-12)

**16)** 300 – 750 **17)** (-90) – (-25) **18)** 6 – 10½

**19)** Check your answers to all questions so far.

**Notes**

Copy the three diagrams from this lesson into your notes. Label each diagram with the question that the diagram demonstrates. Also, make sure to include the answer.

**Challenge**

**20)** (-19) – (-8) – (-3) – (-1) **21)** (-19) – **[**(-8) – (-3)**]** – (-1)

**22)** (-19) – (-8) – **[**(-3) – (-1)**]** **23)** (-19) – **[**(-8) – (-3) – (-1)**]**

**24)** Which of these four questions has the answer with the greatest absolute value? Explain why.

**Answers**

**1)** 5 **2)** 12

**3)** (-3) **4)** (-14)

**5)** (-9) **6)** (-16)

**10)** (-13) **11)** (-6) **12)** (-39)

**13)** (-23) **14)** 0 **15)** (-27)

**16)** (-450) **17)** (-65) **18)** -4 ½