

an combine like terms to simplify an expression.

Term: any part of an expression that is separated by a + or -

EX

$$\underline{4x} + \underline{0} - \underline{2x} \quad 3 \text{ terms}$$

How to combine ~~how~~ like terms

① Use colors to identify like terms

$$\boxed{0x} + \boxed{2y} - \boxed{4x} + \boxed{3} + \boxed{y}$$

x: 

y: 

#: 

② Add together the terms that have the same color (like terms)

$$\boxed{0x} - \boxed{4x} \rightarrow 2x$$

$$\boxed{2y} + \boxed{y} \rightarrow 3y$$

$$\boxed{+3}$$

③ Write the expression with the remaining terms

$$2x + 3y + 3$$