

Aids in Problem Solving

1. Look for a pattern.
2. Make a table or chart.
3. Draw a picture.
4. Guess, check, and revise.
5. Try a simpler version of the same problem.
6. Use logical reasoning.
7. Use a variable.
8. Work backwards.

George Polya's Guide to Problem Solving

To solve a problem is to find a way where no way is known offhand, to find a way out of difficulty, to find a way out around an obstacle, to attain a desired and that is not immediately attainable, by appropriate means. - George Polya

1. Understand the problem.
2. Devise a plan.
3. Carry out the plan.
4. Look back.