

# 4 Step Problem-Solving Approach

- Read it once - identify ***what is requested***
  - Box the item requested; identify a variable if you can
  - If possible, write a “target equation” for the item requested
- Read it twice - take an ***inventory***
  - What kind of things do you see?
  - Keywords? Units?
- Identify ***patterns***
  - What patterns do you know related those things?
- ***Simplify***
  - Factor, un-factor, cross-multiply, etc.
- ***Repeat***, starting with the “inventory” step