

Examples:

1). Find the value of $\sqrt{7+\sqrt{7+\sqrt{7+\dots}}}$

Let the value we are being asked to find equal x .

$$\text{Then } x = \sqrt{7+x}$$

$$x^2 - x - 7 = 0$$

Using the quadratic formula,

$$x = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{29}}{2}$$

We know that the positive solution is correct because the square roots in the original expression imply it.

2). Compute: $1 + \frac{2}{1 + \frac{2}{1 + \dots}}$

Let this value equal a .

Then,

$$a = 1 + \frac{2}{a}$$

$$a^2 - a - 2 = 0$$

$$(a-2)(a+1) = 0$$

$$a = 2$$

the solution ~~$a = -1$~~ is extraneous because the original equation was positive.

3). Find $\frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{20} + \frac{9}{100} \dots$

Let this value equal s .

Then $\frac{3}{20} + \frac{9}{100} \dots = \frac{3s}{5}$ (from subtracting the

$$s - \frac{3s}{5} = \frac{1}{4}$$

two equations)

$$\frac{2s}{5} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$s = \frac{5}{8}$$