

## Lesson 8-7 Factoring Special Cases



Reminder: DIFFERENCE OF SQUARES:  $a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{A. } 16y^2 - 81z^2 &= (\underline{4y})^2 - (\underline{9z})^2 \\ &= (\underline{4y + 9z})(\underline{4y - 9z}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{B. } 3b^3 - 27b &= \underline{3b(b^2 - 9)} \quad (\text{Factor out the common factor.}) \\ &= \underline{3b(b^2 - 3^2)} \\ &= \underline{3b(b+3)(b-3)} \end{aligned}$$

Apply a Factoring Technique More Than Once

$$\begin{aligned} \text{C. } 4y^4 - 2500 &= \underline{4(y^4 - 625)} \\ &= \underline{4((y^2)^2 - 25^2)} \\ &= \underline{4(y^2 + 25)(y^2 - 25)} \\ &= \underline{4(y^2 + 25)(y^2 - 5^2)} \\ &= \underline{4(y^2 + 25)(y + 5)(y - 5)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{D. } 3y^4 - 48 &= \underline{3(y^4 - 16)} \\ &= \underline{3((y^2)^2 - 4^2)} \\ &= \underline{3(y^2 + 4)(y^2 - 4)} \\ &= \underline{3(y^2 + 4)(y^2 - 2^2)} \\ &= \underline{3(y^2 + 4)(y + 2)(y - 2)} \end{aligned}$$

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## Perfect Square Trinomials

E.

1 <sup>st</sup> term must be a perfect square $25x^2 = (5x)^2$	Middle terms must be twice the product of the square roots of the 1 <sup>st</sup> and last terms. $2(5x)(3) = 30x$	Last term must be a perfect square $9 = (3)^2$
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$$25x^2 - 30x + 9 = \underline{(5x - 3)^2}$$

F.  $49y^2 + 42y + 36 =$  not a perfect squared trinomial

$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ (7y)^2 + 2(7y)(6) + 6^2 \\ \leftarrow 84y \end{array}$$

The middle term is not  $2 \cdot a \cdot b$

G.  $6x^2 - 96 = \underline{6(x^2 - 16)}$   
 $\underline{6(x + 4)(x - 4)}$

H.  $16y^2 + 8y - 15 = \underline{(y^2 + 8y - 240) =}$   $16 \cdot 15 = -240$   
 $24, -10$   
 $-12, 20$   
 $\underline{(y + \frac{20}{16})(y - \frac{12}{16}) = (y + \frac{5}{4})(y - \frac{3}{4}) = (4y + 5)(4y - 3)}$

## Factoring Polynomials - Summary

Number of Terms	Factoring Technique		Example
2 or more	greatest common factor		$3x^3 + 6x^2 - 15 = 3x(x^2 + 2x - 5)$
2	Difference of squares	$a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$	$4x^2 - 25 = (2x + 5)(2x - 5)$
3	Perfect square trinomial	$a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = (a + b)^2$ $a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = (a - b)^2$	$x^2 + 6x + 9 = (x + 3)^2$ $4x^2 - 4x + 1 = (2x + 1)^2$
	$x^2 + bx + c$	$x^2 + bx + c = (x + m)(x - n)$ when $m + n = b$ and $mn = c$	$x^2 - 9x + 20 = (x - 5)(x - 4)$
	$ax^2 + bx + c$	$ax^2 + bx + c = ax^2 + mx + nx + c$ when $m + n = b$ and $mn = ac$ . Then use factoring by grouping	$6x^2 - x - 2 = 6x^2 + 3x - 4x - 2$ $= 3x(2x + 1) - 2(2x + 1)$ $= (2x + 1)(3x - 2)$
4 or more	Factor by grouping	$ax + bx + ay + by$ $= x(a + b) + y(a + b)$ $= (a + b)(x + y)$	$3xy - 6y + 5x - 10$ $= (3xy - 6y) + (5x - 10)$ $= 3y(x - 2) + 5(x - 2)$ $= (x - 2)(3y + 5)$

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Practice:

Factor each polynomial if possible. If the polynomial cannot be factored, write *prime*.

$$1. \quad 98x^2 - 200y^2$$

$$2(49x^2 - 100y^2)$$

$$2(7x + 10y)(7x - 10y)$$

$$2. \quad X^2 + 22x + 121$$

$$(x + 11)^2$$

$$3. \quad 81 + 18s + s^2$$

$$s^2 + 18s + 81$$

$$(s + 9)^2$$

$$4. \quad 25c^2 - 10c + 1$$

$$\text{prime}$$

$$5. \quad 169 - 26r + r^2$$

$$r^2 - 26r + 169$$

$$(r - 13)^2$$

$$6. \quad 7x^2 - 9x + 2$$

$$x^2 - 9x + 14$$

$$(x - \frac{7}{7})(x - \frac{2}{7})$$

$$(x - 1)(7x - 2)$$

$$7. \quad 16m^2 + 48m + 36$$

$$(4m + 6)^2$$

$$8. \quad 16 - 25a^2$$

$$(4 - 5a)(4 + 5a)$$

$$9. \quad b^2 - 16b + 256$$

$$\text{prime}$$

$$10. \quad 36x^2 - 12x + 1$$

$$(6x - 1)^2$$

$$11. \quad 16a^2 - 40ab + 25b^2$$

$$(4a - 5b)^2$$

$$12. \quad 8m^3 - 64m = 8m(m^2 - 8)$$

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## Solving Equations With Perfect Squares

Perfect square trinomials will always have a repeated duplicate factor, so they will always have only 1 solution.

$$E. \quad \begin{array}{cc} (2x)^2 & 9^2 \\ 4x^2 + 36x + 81 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$(2x+9)^2 = 0$$

$$2x+9=0$$

$$2x=-9$$

$$x = -9/2$$

$$\text{Solution set is } \{-9/2\}$$

$$G. \quad (b-7)^2 = 36$$

$$\sqrt{(b-7)^2} = \sqrt{36}$$

(square root property)

$$b-7 = \pm 6$$

(simplify)

$$b-7=6 \quad \text{or} \quad b-7=-6$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} +7 & +7 \\ \hline b & = 13 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{cc} +7 & +7 \\ \hline b & = 1 \end{array}$$

(separate into two equations)

$$b = 13 \quad b = 1$$

(simplify)

$$\text{Solution set is } \{13, 1\}$$

$$H. \quad (x-3)^2 = 25$$

$$\sqrt{(x-3)^2} = \sqrt{25}$$

$$x-3 = \pm 5$$

$$x-3=5 \quad x-3=-5$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} +3 & +3 \\ \hline x & = 8 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{cc} +3 & +3 \\ \hline x & = -2 \end{array}$$

$$x = 8 \quad x = -2$$

$$\{8, -2\}$$

$$F. \quad x^2 - 36 = 0$$

$$(x+6)(x-6) = 0$$

$$x+6=0 \quad \text{or} \quad x-6=0$$

$$\text{Solution set is } \{-6, 6\}$$

## Square Root Property

For any number  $n > 0$ , if  $x^2 = n$ , then  $x = \pm\sqrt{n}$

Example:  $x^2 = 9$

$$x = \pm\sqrt{9} \text{ or } \pm 3$$

$$I. \quad \begin{array}{cccc} y^2 & 2y \cdot 6 & 6^2 & 10^2 \\ y^2 + 12y + 36 = 100 \end{array}$$

$$(y+6)^2 = 10^2$$

$$\sqrt{(y+6)^2} = \sqrt{10^2}$$

$$y+6 = \pm 10$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} y+6 & = 10 \quad \text{or} \quad y+6 = -10 \\ \hline y-6 & \quad -6 \quad \quad y-6 \quad -6 \end{array}$$

$$y = 4 \quad y = -16$$

$$\{4, -16\}$$