

Factoring Complex Trinomials

SOLUTIONS.

Learning Target: We are learning to... factor quadratics in the form: $ax^2 + bx + c$

Success Criteria: I can... factor quadratics in the form: $ax^2 + bx + c$

A complex trinomial is a trinomial ($y = ax^2 + bx + c$) where $a \neq 1$. Let's again look at expanding an expression that will give us a complex trinomial and see if we can come up with a pattern.

(a) $(3x + 1)(x + 2)$
 $= 3x^2 + 6x + x + 2$
 $= 3x^2 + 7x + 2$
 $axc = 6$ } # 1; 6
 $b = 7$ }

(b) $(2x - 5)(2x + 1)$
 $= 4x^2 + 2x - 10x - 5$
 $= 4x^2 - 8x - 5$
 $axc = -20$ } #'s -10; 2
 $b = -8$ }

(c) $(4x - 3)(2x - 5)$
 $= 8x^2 - 20x - 6x + 15$
 $= 8x^2 - 26x + 15$
 $axc = 120$ } #'s
 $b = -26$ } -20; -6

There are several methods you can use to factor a complex trinomial. We are going to use the Criss-Cross Method. FYI: we can test to see if a trinomial in the form $ax^2 + bx + c$ can be factored:

- ac is the product
- b is the sum

If you can come up with 2 numbers that multiply to ac and add to b , then the trinomial can be factored!

Examples: Factor completely. Remember, look for a **COMMON FACTOR** first!

(1) $3x^2 + 22x + 7$
 $= 3x^2 + x + 21x + 7$ Decomposition
 $= (3x^2 + x) + (21x + 7)$ $axc = 21$
 $= x(3x + 1) + 7(3x + 1)$ $b = 22$
 $= (x + 7)(3x + 1)$ #'s 1, 2.

(2) $6x^2 + 7x + 2$
 $= (3x + 2)(2x + 1)$

6	1
3	2
2	1
1	2

(3) $5x^2 - 17x + 6$
 $= (5x - 2)(x - 3)$

5	1
6	1
1	6
-2	3
3	2

(4) $4x^2 - 16x + 15$
 $= (2x - 3)(2x - 5)$

4	1
2	2
1	15
15	1
-3	-5
5	3

(5) $7x^2 - 4x - 3$
 $= (7x + 3)(x - 1)$

7	1
1	3
+3	-1

(6) $3x^2 - 11x - 4$
 $= (3x + 1)(x - 4)$

3	1
+1	-4
4	1
2	2

(7) $70x^2 - 21x - 7$
 $7(10x^2 - 3x - 1)$
 $= 7(5x + 1)(2x - 1)$

5	2
10	1
+1	-1

(8) $-20x^2 - 24x + 32$
 $= -4(5x^2 + 6x - 8)$
 $= -4(5x - 4)(x + 2)$
CRISS CROSS METHOD.

5	1
1	8
8	1
2	4
-4	2

 $\therefore (5x - 4)(x + 2)$

ALTERNATIVE:
 $8 \cdot 10 \rightarrow (x + 2)$
 $5 \cdot -4 \rightarrow (5x - 4)$
 $\therefore (x + 2)(5x - 4)$

BOX METHOD

	$x + 2$
$5x$	$5x^2 \quad \quad 10x$
-4	$-4x \quad \quad -8$

 $\therefore (5x - 4)(x + 2)$

Factoring Complex Trinomials - Extra



Let's practise some more!

Examples: Factor completely, where possible.

(1) $-12p^2 - 8pq + 15q^2$

$$= 15q^2 - 8pq - 12p^2$$

s: -8
p: -180

$$= (5q - 6p)(3q + 2p)$$

15	18
5q	-6p
3q	+2p

SIDE WORK!

(2) $10 - 27p - 28p^2$

$$= (2 - 7p)(5 + 4p)$$

s: -27
p: -280

-35 ≠ 8

2	-7p
10	-35
5	+4p

SIDE WORK!

(3) $3a - 5ax + 2ax^2$

$$= a(3 - 5x + 2x^2)$$

$$= a(2x^2 - 5x + 3)$$

$$= a(2x - 3)(x - 1)$$

s: -5 } -1 ≠ -6
p: 6

2	1
-3	-1
1	3

SIDE WORK!



(4) $10x^4y^4 - 21x^2y^2 - 10$

$$= (5x^2y^2 + 2)(2x^2y^2 - 5)$$

5	2
10	1
5	2
2	5
10	1
1	10

SIDE WORK!

(5) $(p - 2q)^2 - 11(p - 2q) + 24$

Sub in x

$$x = (p - 2q)$$

$$= x^2 - 11x + 24$$

$$= (x - 8)(x - 3)$$

$$= (p - 2q - 8)(p - 2q - 3)$$

replace x with p-2q

(6) $3(2x + 4)^2 + 12(2x + 4)y - 36y^2$

$$= 3((2x+4)^2 + 4(2x+4)y - 12y^2)$$

$$z = 2x + 4$$

$$= 3(z^2 + 4zy - 12y^2)$$

$$= 3(z + 6y)(z - 2y)$$

$$= 3(2x + 4 + 6y)(2x + 4 - 2y)$$

$$= 12(x + 2 + 3y)(x + 2 - y)$$

