

Factoring

Solving Quadratic Equations by  
Factoring

# Quadratic Equations

A **quadratic equation** is given by

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

where a, b, and c are real numbers with  $a \neq 0$ . We refer to this form as the **standard form** of the equation.

A quadratic equation has an \_\_\_\_\_ sign whereas a quadratic expression does not. Therefore, a quadratic equation can be \_\_\_\_\_ for a variable, but a quadratic expression can only be \_\_\_\_\_.

Example of a quadratic expression: \_\_\_\_\_

Example of a quadratic equation: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Zero Product Principle

*If the product of two or more numbers is equal to zero, then at least one of the numbers must be zero. For real numbers or expressions  $A$  and  $B$ , if  $AB = 0$ , then  $A = 0$  or  $B = 0$ .*

**Example:** Solve the following quadratic equations using the Zero Product Principle.

$$(x - 5)(x + 1) = 0$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

$$(3x + 4)(2x - 1) = 0$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

# Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring

- 1) Simplify the equation by using distribution and combining like terms, if necessary.
- 2) Move all terms onto one side of the equation so that the other side is 0. This should be in standard form  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ .
- 3) Factor the expression.
- 4) Apply the zero product principle, setting each factor equal to zero.
- 5) Solve the equation(s) that result after the zero product principle was applied.
- 6) Check that the proposed solution(s) are correct.

**Example:** Find the solution(s) to the following quadratic equations. Check your solution(s) and state the solution set.

$$x^2 - 8x + 15 = 0$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

$$-3x^2 - 3x + 18 = 0$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

**Example:** Find the solution(s) to the following quadratic equations. Check your solution(s) and state the solution set.

$$y^2 - 25 = 0$$

$$9t^2 = 4$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

**Example:** Find the solution(s) to the following quadratic equations. Check your solution(s) and state the solution set.

$$x^2 = 8(x - 2)$$

$$2x^2 - x + 15 = 30$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

**Example:** Find the solution(s) to the following quadratic equations. Check your solution(s) and state the solution set.

$$y^3 + 9y^2 = -20y$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_

$$(x + 2)(2x - 5) = x^2 - 4$$

The solution set is \_\_\_\_\_



**Example:** Two numbers have a sum of 5 and product of -84.  
Find the numbers.

**Example:** A rectangle's base is 6in longer than 4 times its height. The area of the rectangle is  $28 \text{ in}^2$ . Find the rectangle's dimensions.

The rectangle's height is \_\_\_\_\_. The rectangle's base is \_\_\_\_\_.