

Notes: Factoring Trinomials when a = 1

QUESTIONS	NOTES:
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$$ax^2 + bx + c$$

Trinomials can be written as a product of two binomials

ax^2	$___x$
$___x$	c

STEPS to Factoring:

1. Use a M/S table to split the middle term:
 M = factors that multiply to the 'c' term
 S = sum of the factors that add to the 'b' term
2. Fill in box and work backwards using GCF to find factors

Examples:

$$x^2 + 8x + 12 \quad a = \underline{1} \quad b = \underline{8} \quad c = \underline{12}$$

	12	8
M		S
$6 \times 2 = 12 \quad 6 + 2 = 8$		

	x	+6
x	x^2	$6x$
+2	$2x$	12

↑
← GCF

FACTORS: $(x+2)(x+6)$

$$a^2 - 9a + 20 \quad a = \underline{1} \quad b = \underline{-9} \quad c = \underline{20}$$

	20	-9
M		S
$-5 \times -4 = 20 \quad -5 + -4 = -9$		

	a	-5
a	a^2	$-5a$
-4	$-4a$	20

↑
← GCF

FACTORS: $(a-5)(a-4)$

$x^2 + 3x - 18$

$a = \underline{1} \quad b = \underline{3} \quad c = \underline{-18}$

	M	S
-18		3

$$6x - 3 = 186 + -3 = 3$$

	$x + 6$	
x	x^2	$6x$
-3	$-3x$	-18

↑
← GCF

FACTORS: $(x - 3)(x + 6)$

$x^2 - 6x - 42$

$a = \underline{1} \quad b = \underline{-6} \quad c = \underline{-42}$

	M	S
-42		-6

$1x \cdot 42$	$1 + -42 = -41$
$-1x \cdot 42$	$-1 + 42 = 41$
$2x \cdot 21$	$2 + 21 = 23$
$-2x \cdot 21$	$-2 + 21 = 19$
$3x \cdot 14$	$3 + 14 = 17$
$-3x \cdot 14$	$-3 + 14 = 11$
$6x \cdot 7$	$6 + 7 = 13$
$-6x \cdot 7$	$-6 + 7 = 1$

x^2	
	-42

FACTORS: NOT FACTORABLE

Factoring Trinomials (a = 1)

Factor each completely.

1) $b^2 + 8b + 7$

$(b + 7)(b + 1)$

2) $n^2 - 11n + 10$

$(n - 10)(n - 1)$

3) $m^2 + m - 90$

$(m - 9)(m + 10)$

4) $n^2 + 4n - 12$

$(n - 2)(n + 6)$

5) $n^2 - 10n + 9$

$(n - 1)(n - 9)$

6) $b^2 + 16b + 64$

$(b + 8)^2$

7) $m^2 + 2m - 24$

$(m + 6)(m - 4)$

8) $x^2 - 4x + 24$

Not factorable

9) $k^2 - 13k + 40$

$(k - 5)(k - 8)$

10) $a^2 + 11a + 18$

$(a + 2)(a + 9)$

11) $n^2 - n - 56$

$(n + 7)(n - 8)$

12) $n^2 - 5n + 6$

$(n - 2)(n - 3)$