

MATH 1010 ~ Intermediate Algebra

Chapter 5: POLYNOMIALS AND
FACTORING

Section 5.5: Factoring Trinomials

Objectives:

- * Recognize and factor perfect square trinomials.
- * Factor Trinomials of varying forms.
- * Factor polynomials using guidelines for factoring.

$$x^2 - 6x + 9 = (\quad) (\quad)$$
$$x^2 + 3x - 4 = (\quad) (\quad)$$

$$6x^3 + 27x^2 - 15x = (\quad) (\quad)$$

Perfect Square Trinomials

$$\textcircled{1} \quad u^2 + 2uv + v^2 = (u + v)^2$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad u^2 - 2uv + v^2 = (u - v)^2$$

$$(u+v)^2 = (u+v)(u+v) \\ = u^2 + uv + uv + v^2$$

① EXAMPLES:

$$\text{a) } x^2 - 4x + 4 = x^2 - 2(2x) + 2^2 \quad \textcircled{2} \\ = (x-2)^2 \quad \begin{array}{l} x = u \\ 2 = v \end{array}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \text{b) } 9x^2 - 30xy + 25y^2 = (3x)^2 - 2(15xy) + (5y)^2 \\ u = 3x \quad = (3x - 5y)(3x - 5y) \\ v = 5y \quad = (3x - 5y)^2$$

$$\text{c) } 16x^3 + 80x^2 + 100x \\ = 4x(4x^2 + 20x + 25) \\ \textcircled{1} \quad \begin{array}{l} u = 2x \\ v = 5 \end{array} \left| \begin{array}{l} = 4x((2x)^2 + 2(10x) + 5^2) \\ = 4x(2x + 5)^2 \end{array} \right.$$

② EXAMPLE:
Factor these.

Guess & Test

a) $x^2 - x - 20$

$$= \cancel{(x - 2)(x + 10)} \quad 8x \neq -x$$

$$\cancel{(x - 4)(x + 5)} \quad -4x + 5x = x \neq -x$$

$$\boxed{(x + 4)(x - 5)}$$

b) $x^2 - 17x - 18$

$$= (x - 18)(x + 1)$$

c) $x^2 + 5x + 4$

$$= \cancel{(x + 2)(x + 2)}$$

$$= \boxed{(x + 4)(x + 1)}$$

- ③ EXAMPLE:
Factor these.

a) $4x^2 + 5x - 6$
 $= (2x - 3)(2x + 2)$
 $= (2x - 1)(2x + 6)$

~~$(4x + 3)(x - 2)$~~
 $(4x - 3)(x + 2)$

b) $2x^2 - x - 3$

$2 \cdot -3 = -6$
 $-1, 6$
 $-6, 1$
 $-2, 3$
 $(2, -3)$

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

	$2x$	-3
\times	$2x^2$	$-3x$
1	$2x$	-3

c) $6x^2 + 19x + 10$

$6 \cdot 10 = 60$
 $1, 60$
 $2, 30$
 $3, 20$
 $(4, 15)$

	$2x$	5
$3x$	$6x^2$	$15x$
2	$4x$	10

$19x = 4x + 15x$

$(3x + 2)(2x + 5)$

④ EXAMPLE:

Factor these.

a) $-3x^2 + 16x + 35$

$$= -(3x^2 - 16x - 35)$$

$$3 \cdot -35 = -105$$

$$-3 \cdot 35$$

$$3 \cdot -35$$

$$\underline{5 \cdot -21}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} -16x \\ = 5x - 21x \end{array} \right\}$$

	x	-7
$3x$	$3x^2$	$-21x$
5	$5x$	-35

b) $4x^3 - 32x^2 + 64x$

$$= 4x(x^2 - 8x + 16)$$

$$= 4x(x-4)(x-4)$$

or $4x(x-4)^2$

$$= -(3x+5)(x-7)$$

or $(-3x-5)(x-7)$

c) $x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x + 12$

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

$$= \underline{x^2(x-3)} - \underline{4(x-3)}$$

$$= (x-3)(x^2 - 4)$$

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