

# Solving Quadratics by Factoring

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 24

## Q Quick Review

To solve  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  by factoring: **(1)** move everything to one side so the other side is 0; **(2)** factor; **(3)** use the **Zero Product Property** — if a product is 0, at least one factor is 0 — and set each factor equal to 0; **(4)** solve each factor. A quadratic can have 2, 1 (double root from a perfect square), or 0 real solutions. If you can't factor, use the quadratic formula or completing the square. Factoring is fastest when the numbers are friendly.

## PRACTICE

Solve each by factoring.

- |                        |       |                          |       |
|------------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| 1. $x^2 - 7x + 12 = 0$ | _____ | 11. $x^2 + 2x = 8$       | _____ |
| 2. $x^2 + 4x - 5 = 0$  | _____ | 12. $3x^2 - 12 = 0$      | _____ |
| 3. $x^2 - 9 = 0$       | _____ | 13. $x^2 - 10x + 25 = 0$ | _____ |
| 4. $x^2 + 6x + 9 = 0$  | _____ | 14. $x^2 + 7x = 0$       | _____ |
| 5. $x^2 - x - 12 = 0$  | _____ | 15. $2x^2 - 8 = 0$       | _____ |
| 6. $x^2 + x - 6 = 0$   | _____ | 16. $x^2 - x - 20 = 0$   | _____ |
| 7. $2x^2 + 5x + 3 = 0$ | _____ | 17. $6x^2 - x - 1 = 0$   | _____ |
| 8. $x^2 + 8x + 16 = 0$ | _____ | 18. $x(x - 3) = 10$      | _____ |
| 9. $x^2 - 4x = 0$      | _____ | 19. $4x^2 - 1 = 0$       | _____ |
| 10. $x^2 = 25$         | _____ | 20. $x^2 - 2x - 15 = 0$  | _____ |

## ◆ Word Problems

21. A ball is launched from the ground with height model  $h(t) = -16t^2 + 32t$ . Besides the launch time, when does it hit the ground again?  
\_\_\_\_\_
22. A rectangular garden has area 40 square feet, and its length is 3 feet more than its width. Find the garden's dimensions.  
\_\_\_\_\_
23. A number puzzle says two consecutive even integers have a product of 48. Find the possible integers.  
\_\_\_\_\_
24. A small business uses the model  $P = x^2 - 10x$  for profit, where negative values mean a loss. Find the break-even values where profit is zero.  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Answer Keys

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. <math>x = 3, 4</math></p> <p>2. <math>x = -5, 1</math></p> <p>3. <math>x = \pm 3</math></p> <p>4. <math>x = -3</math></p> <p>5. <math>x = 4, -3</math></p> <p>6. <math>x = -3, 2</math></p> <p>7. <math>x = -1, -\frac{3}{2}</math></p> <p>8. <math>x = -4</math></p> <p>9. <math>x = 0, 4</math></p> <p>10. <math>x = \pm 5</math></p> <p>11. <math>x = 2, -4</math></p> <p>12. <math>x = \pm 2</math></p> | <p>13. <math>x = 5</math></p> <p>14. <math>x = 0, -7</math></p> <p>15. <math>x = \pm 2</math></p> <p>16. <math>x = 5, -4</math></p> <p>17. <math>x = \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{3}</math></p> <p>18. <math>x = 5, -2</math></p> <p>19. <math>x = \pm \frac{1}{2}</math></p> <p>20. <math>x = 5, -3</math></p> <p>21. <math>t = 2 \text{ sec}</math></p> <p>22. <math>w = 5, \ell = 8</math></p> <p>23. 6 and 8 (or <math>-8, -6</math>)</p> <p>24. <math>x = 0</math> or <math>x = 10</math></p> |
|---|--|

### Step-by-Step Tutor Notes

1. Take it one clear step at a time and keep the original question in mind.  $(x - 3)(x - 4) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = 3, 4$ .
2. Focus on the main idea of the problem, then simplify carefully.  $(x + 5)(x - 1) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = -5, 1$ .
3. Focus on the main idea of the problem, then simplify carefully.  $(x - 3)(x + 3) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = \pm 3$ .
4. Focus on the main idea of the problem, then simplify carefully.  $(x + 3)^2 = 0$ , double root. So the answer is  $x = -3$ .
5. This is a good place to slow down, check the notation, and simplify cleanly.  $(x - 4)(x + 3) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = 4, -3$ .
6. Start with the definition the problem is testing, then apply it directly.  $(x + 3)(x - 2) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = -3, 2$ .
7. Focus on the main idea of the problem, then simplify carefully.  $(2x + 3)(x + 1) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = -1, -\frac{3}{2}$ .
8. This is a good place to slow down, check the notation, and simplify cleanly.  $(x + 4)^2 = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = -4$ .
9. Take it one clear step at a time and keep the original question in mind.  $x(x - 4) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = 0, 4$ .
10. This is a good place to slow down, check the notation, and simplify cleanly.  $x^2 - 25 = (x - 5)(x + 5) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = \pm 5$ .
11. Move all to one side:  $x^2 + 2x - 8 = 0$ . Factor:  $(x + 4)(x - 2) = 0$ .
12. Start with the definition the problem is testing, then apply it directly.  $x^2 = 4$ . So the answer is  $x = \pm 2$ .
13. Use the clue in the question first, then let the arithmetic finish the job. Perfect square. So the answer is  $x = 5$ .
14. Start with the definition the problem is testing, then apply it directly.  $x(x + 7) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = 0, -7$ .
15. Start with the definition the problem is testing, then apply it directly.  $x^2 = 4$ . So the answer is  $x = \pm 2$ .
16. Use the clue in the question first, then let the arithmetic finish the job.  $(x - 5)(x + 4) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = 5, -4$ .
17. Use the clue in the question first, then let the arithmetic finish the job.  $(2x - 1)(3x + 1) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = \frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{3}$ .
18. Read the table by matching the correct row and column first, then use the count or total that fits the question.  $x^2 - 3x - 10 = 0 \Rightarrow (x - 5)(x + 2) = 0$ . This gives  $x = 5, -2$ .
19. Start with the definition the problem is testing, then apply it directly.  $(2x - 1)(2x + 1) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = \pm \frac{1}{2}$ .
20. Take it one clear step at a time and keep the original question in mind.  $(x - 5)(x + 3) = 0$ . So the answer is  $x = 5, -3$ .
21.  $-16t^2 + 32t = 0 \Rightarrow -16t(t - 2) = 0$ . So  $t = 0$  (start) or  $t = 2$ . Lands at  $t = 2$ .
22.  $w(w + 3) = 40 \Rightarrow w^2 + 3w - 40 = 0 \Rightarrow (w + 8)(w - 5) = 0$ . Positive:  $w = 5, \ell = 8$ .
23.  $n(n + 2) = 48 \Rightarrow n^2 + 2n - 48 = 0 \Rightarrow (n + 8)(n - 6) = 0$ . Positive pair: 6 and 8.
24. Name the quantities first so the model is easy to read.  $x(x - 10) = 0$ . Two break-even points.



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