

The Math Dawg

Completing the Square



Jan 28-9:11 PM



Perfect Square Trinomials

THERE WERE CERTAIN SPECIAL
CASES OF TRINOMIALS THAT COULD
BE FACTORED TO A BINOMIAL SQUARED

examples:

$$x^2 - 6x + 9$$

$$x^2 + 4x + 4$$

$$x^2 - 10x + 25$$

$$3x^2 - 42x + 147$$

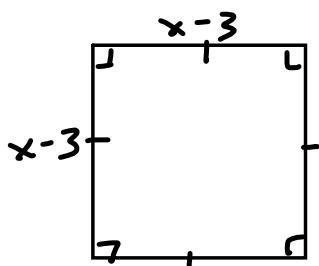
$$-x^2 + 2x - 1$$



Perfect Square Trinomials

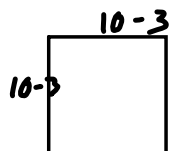
LITERALLY, THEY ARE CALLED "PERFECT SQUARE TRINOMIALS" BECAUSE THEIR DIMENSIONS FORM A SQUARE.

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



SUPPOSE $x = 10$

THEN



$$\text{AREA} = 7^2 = 49$$

How to Complete a Square



example:

COMPLETE THE SQUARE

$$12x + x^2$$

①

$$x^2 + 12x$$

WRITE IN DESCENDING POWERS OF x

②

$$\text{TAKE } \frac{1}{2} \text{ OF } 12 = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 12 = 6$$

③

$$\text{TAKE } 6^2 = 36$$

④

$$x^2 + 12x + 36$$

⑤

FACTOR

$$x^2 + 12x + 36 = (x + 6)^2$$

How to Complete a Square

FOR THE FOLLOWING EXPRESSIONS
COMPLETE THE SQUARE TO MAKE THEM
PERFECT SQUARE TRINOMIALS. THEN FACTOR
THE COMPLETED SQUARE AS A BINOMIAL SQUARED.

$$1. x^2 + 2x \rightarrow x^2 + 2x + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = (\underline{\hspace{1cm}})^2$$

$$2. x^2 + 9x \rightarrow x^2 + 9x + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = (\underline{\hspace{1cm}})^2$$

$$3. x^2 + \frac{1}{8}x \rightarrow x^2 + \frac{1}{8}x + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = (\underline{\hspace{1cm}})^2$$

$$4. -x^2 + 6x \rightarrow -(\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \underline{\hspace{1cm}}) \\ = -(\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \underline{\hspace{1cm}})^2$$

$$5. 3x^2 - 12x \rightarrow \\ 3(\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \underline{\hspace{1cm}} \underline{\hspace{1cm}}) \\ = 3(\underline{\hspace{1cm}} \underline{\hspace{1cm}})^2$$

How to Complete a Square



example: USE THE COMPLETE THE
SQUARE TECHNIQUE TO
WRITE A FUNCTION EQUAL
TO
 $f(x) = x^2 + 16x$

How to Complete a Square



example: USE THE COMPLETE THE
SQUARE TECHNIQUE TO
WRITE A FUNCTION EQUAL
TO
$$f(x) = 2x^2 + 20x$$

How to Complete a Square



example: USE THE COMPLETE THE
SQUARE TECHNIQUE TO
WRITE A FUNCTION EQUAL
TO
$$f(x) = -x^2 + 20x$$

How to Complete a Square



example: USE THE COMPLETE
THE SQUARE TECHNIQUE
TO WRITE A FUNCTION
EQUIVALENT TO
 $f(x) = x^2 + x$

THIS ONE
GIVES MANY
STUDENTS
DIFFICULTY.

How to Complete a Square



example: USE THE COMPLETE THE
SQUARE TECHNIQUE
TO WRITE A FUNCTION
EQUAL TO $f(x) = 3x^2 + 2x$

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How to Complete a Square



example:

USE THE COMPLETE THE
SQUARE TECHNIQUE
TO WRITE A FUNCTION
EQUAL TO $f(x) = -x^2 + 5x$

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