

# $ax^2 + bx + c$

## 3 Terms

## 4 Terms

**Trinomials**  
 Rule: Use X Method or Box Method or Guess & check.  
 Always <sup>check</sup> for GCF first.

**Perfect Square Trinomials**  
 Rule(s):  
 $a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = (a+b)^2$   
 $a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = (a-b)^2$

**Factor by Grouping**  
 Rule: Put the polynomial in standard form. Group the first 2 terms & the last 2 terms. GCF 3 times

Examples:  $a=1, b=-11, c=18$

EX.1  $y^2 - 11y + 18$

$\begin{array}{ccc} & 18 & \\ -2 & \times & -9 \\ \hline 1 & & -11 \end{array}$

$\begin{array}{l} 1 \cdot 18 \\ 2 \cdot 9 \\ 3 \cdot 6 \end{array}$

**$(y-2)(y-9)$**

Examples:

EX.1  $4x^2 + 20x + 25$

$\begin{array}{ccc} \sqrt{4x^2} & & \sqrt{25} \\ 2x & & 5 \\ 20x \stackrel{?}{=} 2 \cdot 2x \cdot 5 \checkmark \end{array}$

**$(2x+5)^2$**

Examples:

EX.1  $(y^3 - y^2) + (2y - 2)$

$y^2(y-1) + 2(y-1)$

**$(y-1)(y^2+2)$**

Examples:  $a=4, b=-13, c=-35$

EX.2  $4x^2 - 13x - 35$

$\begin{array}{ccc} -140 & & \\ 7 & \times & -5 \\ \hline 4 & & -13 \end{array}$

$\begin{array}{l} 1 \cdot -140 \\ -20 \cdot -52 \cdot -70 \\ 4 \cdot -35 \\ 5 \cdot -28 \\ 7 \cdot -20 \\ 10 \cdot -14 \end{array}$

**$(4x+7)(x-5)$**

Examples:

EX.2  $9x^2 - 42x + 49$

$\begin{array}{ccc} \sqrt{9x^2} & & \sqrt{49} \\ 3x & & 7 \\ 42x \stackrel{?}{=} 2 \cdot 3x \cdot 7 \checkmark \end{array}$

**$(3x-7)^2$**

Examples:

EX.2  $6x^3 + 15x^2 - 4x - 10$

$(6x^3 + 15x^2) + (-4x - 10)$

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

**$(2x+5)(3x^2-2)$**

Examples:  $a=12, b=13, c=3$

EX.3  $12x^2 + 13x + 3$

$\begin{array}{ccc} 36 & & \\ 4 & \times & 3 \\ \hline 12 & & 13 \end{array}$

$\begin{array}{l} 1 \cdot 36 \\ 2 \cdot 18 \\ 3 \cdot 12 \\ 4 \cdot 9 \\ 6 \cdot 6 \end{array}$

**$(3x+1)(4x+3)$**

Examples:

EX.3  $16x^2 + 8x + 1$

$\begin{array}{ccc} \sqrt{16x^2} & & \sqrt{1} \\ 4x & & 1 \\ 8x \stackrel{?}{=} 2 \cdot 4x \cdot 1 \checkmark \end{array}$

**$(4x+1)^2$**

Examples:

EX.3  $12x^3 + 16x^2 + 15x + 20$

$(12x^3 + 16x^2) + (15x + 20)$

$4x^2(3x+4) + 5(3x+4)$

**$(3x+4)(4x^2+5)$**

**(OPTIONAL)**  
 COULD ALSO USE X METHOD