

# Factor to Find

Rewrite quadratics to reveal their solutions.

HIGH SCHOOL • HSA-SSE.B

CCSS.Math.Content.HSA-SSE.B "Write expressions in equivalent forms to solve problems"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## TURN A SUM INTO FACTORS

When a quadratic expression equals 0, rewrite it as a product of factors. If a product equals 0, at least one factor must equal 0, so set each factor equal to 0 and solve.

## WORKED EXAMPLE

Solve  $x^2 + 13x + 36 = 0$ .

1. Find two numbers that multiply to 36 and add to 13: 4 and 9.
2. Rewrite:  $(x + 4)(x + 9) = 0$ .
3. Set each factor equal to 0:  $x + 4 = 0$  or  $x + 9 = 0$ .

**Answer:  $x = -4$  or  $x = -9$**

## PRACTICE 6 problems

**1** Factor to solve:  $x^2 + 11x + 24 = 0$ .

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

**2** Factor to solve:  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$ .

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

**3** Factor to solve:  $x^2 - 7x + 10 = 0$ .

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

**4** Factor to solve:  $2x^2 + 7x + 3 = 0$ .

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

**5** Factor to solve:  $3x^2 + x - 10 = 0$ .

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

**6** Factor to solve:  $x^2 - 17x + 70 = 0$ .

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** A student is designing a rectangular art print with area  $x^2 + 12x + 35$  square inches. Each side length is  $x$  plus a positive whole number. Write the area in factored form and state the dimensions of the print.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

- 2** A school music club models its profit, in dollars, from selling  $x$  dozen concert shirts by  $P = -x^2 + 15x - 50$ . For what values of  $x$  does the club break even?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

## CHALLENGE One step up

### CHALLENGE

The height of a ramp is modeled by  $h = -x^2 + 12x + 5$ . Rewrite the expression in vertex form, then state the maximum height and explain how your rewritten form shows it.

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## PART 1 · PRACTICE

| # | PROBLEM                                 | ANSWER                                              |
|---|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Factor to solve: $x^2 + 11x + 24 = 0$ . | <b><math>x = -3</math> or <math>x = -8</math></b>   |
| 2 | Factor to solve: $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$ .   | <b><math>x = 2</math> or <math>x = 3</math></b>     |
| 3 | Factor to solve: $x^2 - 7x + 10 = 0$ .  | <b><math>x = 2</math> or <math>x = 5</math></b>     |
| 4 | Factor to solve: $2x^2 + 7x + 3 = 0$ .  | <b><math>x = -1/2</math> or <math>x = -3</math></b> |
| 5 | Factor to solve: $3x^2 + x - 10 = 0$ .  | <b><math>x = 5/3</math> or <math>x = -2</math></b>  |
| 6 | Factor to solve: $x^2 - 17x + 70 = 0$ . | <b><math>x = 7</math> or <math>x = 10</math></b>    |

## PART 2 · APPLY IT

- $(x + 5)(x + 7)$ ; dimensions:  $x + 5$  inches by  $x + 7$  inches** Find two positive integers whose product is 35 and whose sum is 12. Those integers give the constants in the two binomial factors.
- $x = 5$  or  $x = 10$  dozen shirts** Set  $P$  equal to 0 and factor:  $-(x - 5)(x - 10) = 0$ . The profit is zero when either factor is zero.

## CHALLENGE

**$h = -(x - 6)^2 + 41$ . The maximum height is 41 because  $(x - 6)^2$  is never negative, so  $-(x - 6)^2$  is never positive. The maximum occurs at  $x = 6$ .**

Accept equivalent factored forms and solutions in either order. For the challenge, accept any correct completion-of-the-square work that gives  $h = -(x - 6)^2 + 41$  and identifies the maximum correctly.