

# What is a quadratic?

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# What is a root (or solution, or zero)?

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# The null factor law

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# First step when solving by factorising?

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# Factorise $x^2 + bx + c$

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# $x^2 + bx + c$ with $c$ positive: which signs?

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# $x^2 + bx + c$ with $c$ negative: which signs?

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# Factorise $x^2 + 5x$

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A value of  $x$  that makes the quadratic equal 0  
On a graph it is an **x-intercept**

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The highest power of  $x$  is 2  
 **$ax^2 + bx + c$**   
where  $a$  is not 0

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Make one side of the equation  
**equal to 0**

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If  $A \times B = 0$   
then  **$A = 0$  or  $B = 0$**

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Both numbers have the **same sign**, the same as  $b$

$$x^2 + 8x + 15 = (x + 3)(x + 5)$$

$$x^2 - 8x + 15 = (x - 3)(x - 5)$$

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Find two numbers that **multiply to  $c$**  and **add to  $b$**

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Common factor  $x$

**$x(x + 5)$**

Always look for a common factor first

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One number is  $+$  and one is  $-$   
The **larger** number has the sign of  $b$   
 **$x^2 + 2x - 15 = (x + 5)(x - 3)$**

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## Difference of two squares: the rule

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## How do you spot a difference of two squares?

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## Factorise $x^2 - 49$

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## Factorise $4x^2 - 25$

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## Is $x^2 + 49$ a difference of two squares?

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## Perfect squares: the rules

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## Factorise $x^2 + 6x + 9$

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

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Exactly **two terms**  
Both are **perfect squares**  
A **minus** between them  
No x term

$$a^2 - b^2 = (a + b)(a - b)$$

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$(2x + 5)(2x - 5)$   
Square roots: 2x and 5

$(x + 7)(x - 7)$   
Square roots: x and 7

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$$a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = (a + b)^2$$

$$a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = (a - b)^2$$

**No**  
There is a plus sign, not a minus  
It does not factorise

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$(x - 5)^2$   
Check:  $2 \times x \times 5 = 10x$

$(x + 3)^2$   
Check:  $2 \times x \times 3 = 6x$

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## Factorise $2x^2 + 7x + 3$ (the ac method)

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## Factorise $2x^2 + 5x + 2$

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## Factorise $3x^2 + 12x$

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## Solve $x^2 = 25$

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## Complete the square: $x^2 + 6x$

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## Completing the square: the rule

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## The quadratic formula

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## The discriminant

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$$(2x + 1)(x + 2)$$

$a \times c = 4$ , numbers 1 and 4



$a \times c = 6$ , so find two numbers that multiply to 6 and add to 7: 1 and 6

$$\begin{aligned} &2x^2 + x + 6x + 3 \\ &x(2x + 1) + 3(2x + 1) \\ &\mathbf{(2x + 1)(x + 3)} \end{aligned}$$



$$x = 5 \text{ or } x = -5$$

Remember the  $\pm$



$$3x(x + 4)$$

Common factor  $3x$



$$x^2 + bx + c$$

=

$$\left(x + \frac{b}{2}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 + c$$



Half of 6 is 3

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



$$b^2 - 4ac$$

It is the part under the square root in the formula



For  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$



**What does the discriminant tell you?**

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**Solve  $x^2 + 2x - 15 = 0$**

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**Solve  $2x^2 - 18 = 0$**

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**Why not divide both sides by x in  $x^2 = 3x$ ?**

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**Where is the axis of symmetry?**

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**How do you check a solution?**

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**Expand  $(x + 3)^2$**

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**What if it does not factorise?**

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$$(x + 5)(x - 3) = 0$$

$$x = -5 \text{ or } x = 3$$



Greater than 0: **two** solutions  
 Equal to 0: **one** solution  
 Less than 0: **no** real solutions



You lose the solution  $x = 0$   
 Write  $x^2 - 3x = 0$ , then  $x(x - 3) = 0$   
 $x = 0 \text{ or } x = 3$



$$2x^2 = 18, \text{ so } x^2 = 9$$

$$x = 3 \text{ or } x = -3$$



**Substitute** it back into the original  
 equation  
 Both sides should match, or give 0



**Halfway** between the two roots  
 The vertex is on this line



Use the **quadratic formula**  
 or **complete the square**  
 Check with a calculator



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

$$\text{Not } x^2 + 9$$

