

Section 5.3 notes

**Objective: Factoring with leading coefficient of 1  
(no number in front of the first term)**

**Review Examples:** Multiply the following.

a)  $(x+3)(x+5)$

|      |       |      |
|------|-------|------|
|      | $x$   | $+3$ |
| $x$  | $x^2$ | $3x$ |
| $+5$ | $5x$  | $15$ |

$x^2 + 8x + 15$

b)  $(n-7)(n-4)$

|      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
|      | $n$   | $-7$  |
| $n$  | $n^2$ | $-7n$ |
| $-4$ | $-4n$ | $+28$ |

$n^2 - 11n + 28$

c)  $(t-2)(t+9)$

|      |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|
|      | $t$   | $-2$  |
| $t$  | $t^2$ | $-2t$ |
| $+9$ | $9t$  | $-18$ |

$t^2 + 7t - 18$

d) Look at your answers. How do the numbers in your answer relate to the numbers in the factors?

**Factoring a Trinomial of the Form  $x^2 + bx + c$  (the leading coefficient is 1):**

1. Always check for a GCF first! If there is a GCF, factor it out.
2. Multiply a and c. Find the factors of ac.
3. Find the factors of ac that add to b.
4. Rewrite the middle term  $bx$  as 1st #  $\cdot x + 2nd \# \cdot x$ .
5. Factor the resulting polynomial by grouping.
6. If there are no numbers that multiply to  $c$  and add to  $b$ , the polynomial is prime.

**Shortcut (This only works if there is no number in front of the first term.) The leading coefficient must be 1.**

1. Find two numbers that multiply to  $c$  and add to  $b$ .
2. The factored form of  $x^2 + bx + c$  is  $(x + 1st \#)(x + 2nd \#)$ .
3. The factored form of  $x^2 - bx + c$  is  $(x - 1st \#)(x - 2nd \#)$ .
4. The factored form of  $x^2 + bx - c$  or  $x^2 - bx - c$  is  $(x - 1st \#)(x + 2nd \#)$ .  
The larger number will have the sign of the middle term.

**Examples:** Factor the following polynomials.

a)  $x^2 + 11x + 30$

|      |                |
|------|----------------|
|      | $x + 5$        |
| $x$  | $x^2 \quad 5x$ |
| $+6$ | $6x \quad 30$  |

$\begin{array}{r} \text{mult} \\ 30 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \text{Add} \\ 11x \end{array}$   
 $\begin{array}{r} 1 \ 30 \\ 2 \ 15 \\ 3 \ 10 \\ 5 \ 6 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} +30 \\ 2+15 \\ 3+10 \\ 5+6 \end{array}$

$(x+5)(x+6)$

b)  $m^2 + 8m + 12$

|      |                |
|------|----------------|
|      | $m + 2$        |
| $m$  | $m^2 \quad 2m$ |
| $+6$ | $6m \quad 12$  |

$\begin{array}{r} \text{mult} \\ 12 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \text{Add} \\ 8 \end{array}$   
 $\begin{array}{r} 1 \ 12 \\ 2 \ 6 \end{array} \begin{array}{l} 12 \\ 2+6 \end{array}$

$(m+2)(m+6)$

c)  $2b^2 + 40b + 144$   
 $2(b^2 + 20b + 72)$

| MULT | Add     |
|------|---------|
| 72   | 20      |
| 1·72 | 1+72=73 |
| 2·36 | 2+36=38 |
| 3·24 | 3+24=27 |
| 4·18 | 4+18=22 |
| 6·12 | 6+12=18 |
| 8·9  | 8+9=17  |

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| $b^2$ |    |
|       | 72 |

can only factor out the GCF of 2.

d)  $q^2 - 15q + 56$

| MULT | Add |
|------|-----|
| 7    | -7  |
| 9    | -8  |

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $q^2$ | $-7q$ |
| $-8q$ | 56    |

$(q-7)(q-8)$

e)  $w^2 - 18w + 45$

| MULT | Add |
|------|-----|
| 45   | -18 |
| 3    | -15 |

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| $w^2$  | $-3w$ |
| $-15w$ | 45    |

$(w-3)(w-15)$

f)  $-5g^2 + 25g - 30$   
 $-5(g^2 - 5g + 6)$

| MULT | Add |
|------|-----|
| 6    | 5   |
| 1    | -6  |
| 2    | -3  |

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $g^2$ | $-2g$ |
| $-3g$ | 6     |

$-5(g-2)(g-3)$

g)  $u^2 + 6u - 9$

| add |        |
|-----|--------|
| -9  | 6      |
| 7·9 | -1·9=8 |
| 3·3 | -3+3=0 |

|       |    |
|-------|----|
| $u^2$ |    |
|       | -9 |

prime

h)  $t^2 + 6t - 40$

| add |     |
|-----|-----|
| 10  | -40 |
| 10  | -4  |

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $t^2$ | $10t$ |
| $-4t$ | $-40$ |

$(t+10)(t-4)$

i)  $h^3 + h^2 - 12h$  GCF is h  
 $h(h^2 + h - 12)$

| MULT | Add  |
|------|------|
| -12  | 1    |
| 7·12 |      |
| 3·4  | -3+4 |

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $h^2$ | $-3h$ |
| $4h$  | $-12$ |

$h(h-3)(h+4)$

j)  $n^2 - 5n - 6$

| add |    |
|-----|----|
| -6  | -5 |
| 1   | 6  |
| 2   | 3  |

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $n^2$ | $-6n$ |
| $5n$  | $-6$  |

$(n-6)(n+1)$

k)  $x^2 - 3x - 10$

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $x$   | $2$   |
| $x^2$ | $2x$  |
| $-5$  | $-10$ |

$$\begin{array}{r|l} -10 & -3 \\ 1 \cdot 10 & \\ 2 \cdot 5 & 2 + -5 \end{array}$$

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

l)  $3x^2 - 6x + 15$

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

|       |     |
|-------|-----|
| $x^2$ |     |
|       | $5$ |

$$\begin{array}{r|l} 5 & -2 \\ 1 \cdot 5 & \\ -1 \cdot 5 & -6 \end{array}$$

m)  $x^2 - 4$

missing term

|       |      |
|-------|------|
| $x$   | $2$  |
| $x^2$ | $2x$ |
| $-2$  | $-4$ |

$$\begin{array}{r|l} 4 & 0x \\ -4 & \\ 2 \cdot 2 & \end{array}$$

$(x+2)(x-2)$

n)  $3x^2 - 27$

$3(x^2 - 9)$

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $x$   | $3$   |
| $x^2$ | $-3x$ |
| $3$   | $-9$  |

$$\begin{array}{r|l} 9 & 0x \\ -9 & \\ -3 \cdot 3 & \end{array}$$

$3(x-3)(x+3)$

p)  $x^2 + 144$

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $x^2$ |       |
|       | $144$ |

$$\begin{array}{r|l} 144 & 0x \\ 12 \cdot 12 & 24x \\ -12 \cdot 12 & -24x \end{array}$$

prime

1.)  $d^2 + 20d + 96$

$ac = 96$   $b = 20$

factors

- 1. 96
- 2. 48
- 3. 32
- 4. 24
- 6. 16
- 8. 12

Which factors add 20

$(d+8)(d+12)$

3.)  $w^2 + 7w - 18$

$ac = -18$   $b = 7$

Factors

- 1. 18
- 2. 9
- 3. 6

Add to 7 -2, 9

$(w-2)(w+9)$

5.)  $u^2 - 8u - 8$

Factors of ac

- 1. 8
- 2. 4
- 1. -8
- 2. -4

Add to -8 none

factor the expression

Prime

7.)  $v^2 - 8v + 12$

|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| $v$   | $-2$  |
| $v^2$ | $-2v$ |
| $-6$  | $12$  |

$$\begin{array}{r|l} 12 & -8v \\ -2 & \\ -2 \cdot 6 & \end{array}$$

$(v-2)(v-6)$