

Solving Quadratic Equations by Factoring

(Pages 474–477)

You can use the Zero Product Property to solve quadratic equations by factoring.

Zero Product Property For all numbers a and b , if $ab = 0$, then $a = 0$, $b = 0$, or both a and b equal 0.

EXAMPLES

A Solve $7a(a + 7) = 0$. Check your solution.

$$7a(a + 7) = 0$$

$$7a = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad a + 7 = 0 \quad \text{Zero Product Property}$$

$$a = 0 \quad \quad \quad a = -7$$

Check your solution by substituting 0 and -7 for a in the original equation.

$$7a(a + 7) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 7a(a + 7) = 0$$

$$7(0)(0 + 7) \stackrel{?}{=} 0 \quad \quad 7(-7)(-7 + 7) \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

$$0(7) \stackrel{?}{=} 0 \quad \quad \quad -49(0) \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

$$0 = 0 \checkmark \quad \quad \quad 0 = 0 \checkmark$$

The solutions are 0 and -7 .

B Solve $x^2 + 64 = 16x$. Check your solution.

$$x^2 + 64 = 16x$$

$$x^2 - 16x + 64 = 0 \quad \text{Rewrite the equation.}$$

$$(x - 8)(x - 8) = 0 \quad \text{Factor.}$$

$$x - 8 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x - 8 = 0$$

$$x = 8 \quad \quad \quad x = 8$$

Check. $x^2 + 64 = 16x$

$$8^2 + 64 \stackrel{?}{=} 16(8)$$

$$64 + 64 \stackrel{?}{=} 128$$

$$128 = 128 \checkmark$$

The solution is 8.

Try These Together

Solve each equation. Check your solution.

1. $a^2 + 9a + 20 = 0$

2. $x^2 = 16x$

3. $b^2 = 10b$

HINT: Remember that you may have more than one solution.

PRACTICE

Solve each equation. Check your solution.

4. $6x(x - 5) = 0$

5. $(z - 10)(z + 10) = 0$

6. $(3a + 6)(a - 7) = 0$

7. $z^2 + 11z + 24 = 0$

8. $k^2 - 9k + 18 = 0$

9. $x^2 - 4x - 21 = 0$

10. $x^2 - 11x + 24 = 0$

11. $y^2 - 7y = -12$

12. $5g + 6 = -g^2$

For each problem, define a variable. Then use an equation to solve the problem.

13. The length of a rectangle is 5 inches longer than the width. The area is 66 square inches. Find the dimensions of the rectangle.

14. Find two integers whose difference is 9 and whose product is 36.

15. **Standardized Test Practice** Solve the equation $(k - 15)(k + 8) = 0$.

A $-15, 8$

B $-15, -8$

C $8, 15$

D $-8, 15$

Answers: 1. $-4, -5$ 2. $0, 16$ 3. $0, 10$ 4. $0, 5$ 5. $-10, 10$ 6. $-2, 7$ 7. $-8, -3$ 8. $6, 3$ 9. $-3, 7$ 10. $3, 8$ 11. $3, 4$ 12. $-2, -3$ 13. $l = 11$ in.; $w = 6$ in. 14. $3, 12$; $-12, -3$ 15. D