

Unit 8 Day 10 Notes on Completing the Square

Key

Warm-Up!

Square the binomial.

$$1. (x+3)^2 \quad (x+3)(x+3)$$

$$x^2 + 3x + 3x + 9$$

$$\boxed{x^2 + 6x + 9}$$

$$2. (x+4)^2 \quad (x+4)(x+4)$$

$$x^2 + 4x + 4x + 16$$

$$\boxed{x^2 + 8x + 16}$$

$$3. (x-7)^2 \quad (x-7)(x-7)$$

$$x^2 - 7x - 7x + 49$$

$$\boxed{x^2 - 14x + 49}$$

Let's look at a pattern here:

$$1. \frac{6}{2} = 3 \text{ AND } 3^2 = 9$$

$$2. \frac{8}{2} = 4 \text{ AND } 4^2 = 16$$

$$3. \frac{-14}{2} = -7 \text{ AND } (-7)^2 = 49$$

Complete the Square.

How can we reverse the procedure? Find the number that "completes the square":

$$1. x^2 + 4x + \underline{4} = (x + \underline{2})^2$$

$$\frac{4}{2} = 2 \quad 2^2 = 4$$

$$2. x^2 - 16x + \underline{64} = (x - \underline{8})^2$$

$$\frac{-16}{2} = -8 \quad (-8)^2 = 64$$

$$3. x^2 + 12x + \underline{36} = (x + \underline{6})^2$$

$$\frac{12}{2} = 6 \quad 6^2 = 36$$

$$4. x^2 - 22x + \underline{121} = (x - \underline{11})^2$$

$$\frac{-22}{2} = -11 \quad (-11)^2 = 121$$

Let's Practice!

Find the value of c such that each expression is a perfect-square trinomial. Then write the expression as the square of a binomial.

$$5. x^2 + 18x + c$$

$$\frac{18}{2} = 9, \quad 9^2 = \boxed{81}$$

$$(x+9)^2$$

$$6. q^2 - 4q + c$$

$$\frac{-4}{2} = -2, \quad (-2)^2 = \boxed{4}$$

$$(q-2)^2$$

$$7. p^2 - 30p + c$$

$$\frac{-30}{2} = -15, \quad (-15)^2 = \boxed{225}$$

$$(p-15)^2$$

Completing the Square

You can change the expression $x^2 + bx$ into a perfect-square trinomial by adding $\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2$ to $x^2 + bx$.

BUT! You must keep the expression **balanced**.

Put the Following in Vertex Form. * Completing the square *

8. $x^2 - 16x + 15 = y$

$(x^2 - 16x + 64) + 15 - 64$

Diagram: A blue arrow labeled "opposites" points from the coefficient -16 to the constant 64.

$\frac{-16}{2} = -8, (-8)^2 = 64$

$$y = (x - 8)^2 - 49$$

9. $x^2 + 6x - 1 = y$

$(x^2 + 6x + 9) - 1 - 9$

Diagram: A blue arrow labeled "opposites" points from the coefficient 6 to the constant 9.

$\frac{6}{2} = 3, 3^2 = 9$

$$y = (x + 3)^2 - 10$$

10. $x^2 - 2x - 7 = y$

$(x^2 - 2x + 1) - 7 - 1$

Diagram: A blue arrow labeled "opp." points from the coefficient -2 to the constant 1.

$\frac{-2}{2} = -1, (-1)^2 = 1$

$$y = (x - 1)^2 - 8$$

11. $x^2 + 10x + 9 = y$

$(x^2 + 10x + 25) + 9 - 25$

Diagram: A blue arrow labeled "opp." points from the coefficient 10 to the constant 25.

$\frac{10}{2} = 5, 5^2 = 25$

$$y = (x + 5)^2 - 16$$