

Station 3: Solving Quadratic Equations

Part A: Complete each problem by FACTORING.

1. Find the real zeros of $f(x) = 2x^2 + 15x + 18$.

$$0 = 2x^2 + 15x + 18$$

$$0 = (2x + 3)(x + 6)$$

$$x = -\frac{3}{2} \text{ or } -6$$

2. Solve $9x^2 - 10x + 5 = 0$.

$$9x^2 - 12x - 2x + 5 = 0$$

$$(3x - 5)(3x + 1) = 0$$

$$x = \frac{5}{3} \text{ or } -\frac{1}{3}$$

3. A box has a base that measures 3 inches by 5 inches, and a height of 11 inches. Increasing each dimension of the base by the same amount causes the volume of the box to increase by 528 cubic inches.

- a. Using x as the amount that each dimension of the base is increased by, write an expression for the volume of the box. Let x be the increase in each dimension of the base in inches.

$$11(3+x)(5+x)$$

- b. Use the original measurements and the expression you wrote in part (a) to write an equation that can be used to find the amount by which each dimension of the base increased.

$$(3)(5)(11) + 528 = 11(3+x)(5+x)$$

- c. Solve the equation in part (b) and interpret the solutions in the context of the problem.

$$165 + 528 = 11(x+3)(x+5)$$

$$693 = 11(x^2 + 8x + 15)$$

$$63 = x^2 + 8x + 15$$

$$x^2 + 8x - 48 = 0$$

$$(x+12)(x-4) = 0$$

$$x = -12 \text{ or } 4$$

Each dimension of the base is increased by 4 in.

Part B: Complete each problem.

4. Consider $9x^2 - 12x + 98 = -50$.

- a. Determine how many and what type of solutions the equation has.

$$b^2 - 4ac = (-12)^2 - 4(9)(98) = 144 - (3528) < 0$$

2 imaginary solutions

- b. Find those solutions by completing the square.

$$9x^2 - 12x + 98 = -50$$

$$9x^2 - 12x = -148$$

$$x^2 - \frac{4}{3}x = -\frac{123}{9}$$

$$x^2 - \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{4}{9} = -\frac{123}{9} + \frac{4}{9}$$

$$(x - \frac{2}{3})^2 = -\frac{119}{9}$$

$$x - \frac{2}{3} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{119}}{3}$$

$$x = \frac{2}{3} \pm \frac{\sqrt{119}}{3}$$

5. A rocket is shot into the air from a 168-foot-high platform with an initial velocity of 68 feet per second.

- a. Use the quadratic formula to determine how much time the rocket is in the air before landing at ground level.

$$h(t) = -16t^2 + 68t + 168$$

$$t = \frac{-68 \pm \sqrt{68^2 - 4(-16)(168)}}{2(-16)}$$

$$h(t) = -16t^2 + 68t + 168$$

the rocket landed after 7 seconds

- b. Could the factoring method have been used to answer the question above? Explain.

Yes, because solutions are rational

Answers For E2020 Cumulative Exam Financial Mathematics

Victor M. Corman



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