

4-5 Completing the Square

Example 1 Equation with Rational Roots

Solve $x^2 + 6x + 9 = 36$ by using the Square Root Property.

$$x^2 + 6x + 9 = 36$$

$$(x + 3)^2 = 36$$

$$x + 3 = \pm\sqrt{36}$$

$$x + 3 = \pm 6$$

$$x = -3 \pm 6$$

$$x = -3 + 6 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -3 - 6$$

$$= 3$$

$$= -9$$

The solution set is $\{-9, 3\}$ or $\{x|x = -9, 3\}$.

Original equation

Factor the perfect square trinomial.

Square Root Property

$$\sqrt{36} = 6$$

Subtract 3 from each side.

Write as two equations.

Simplify.

Example 2 Equation with Irrational Roots

Solve $x^2 - 10x + 25 = 27$ by using the Square Root Property.

$$x^2 - 10x + 25 = 27$$

Original equation

$$(x - 5)^2 = 27$$

Factor the perfect square trinomial.

$$x - 5 = \pm\sqrt{27}$$

Square Root Property

$$x = 5 \pm 3\sqrt{3}$$

Add 5 to each side; $\sqrt{27} = 3\sqrt{3}$.

$$x = 5 + 3\sqrt{3} \quad \text{or} \quad x = 5 - 3\sqrt{3}$$

Write as two equations.

$$\approx 10.2$$

$$\approx -0.2$$

Use a calculator.

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \sqrt{(x+6)^2} &= \sqrt{6} \\ x+6 &= \pm\sqrt{6} \\ x &= -6 \pm\sqrt{6} \end{aligned}$$

The exact solutions of this equation are $5 + 3\sqrt{3}$ and $5 - 3\sqrt{3}$. The approximate solutions are -0.2 and 10.2 . Check these results by finding and graphing the related quadratic function.

Examples 1–2 Solve each equation by using the Square Root Property. Round to the nearest hundredth if necessary.

1. $x^2 + 12x + 36 = 6$ **$\{-8.45, -3.55\}$**

2. $x^2 - 8x + 16 = 13$ **$\{0.39, 7.61\}$**

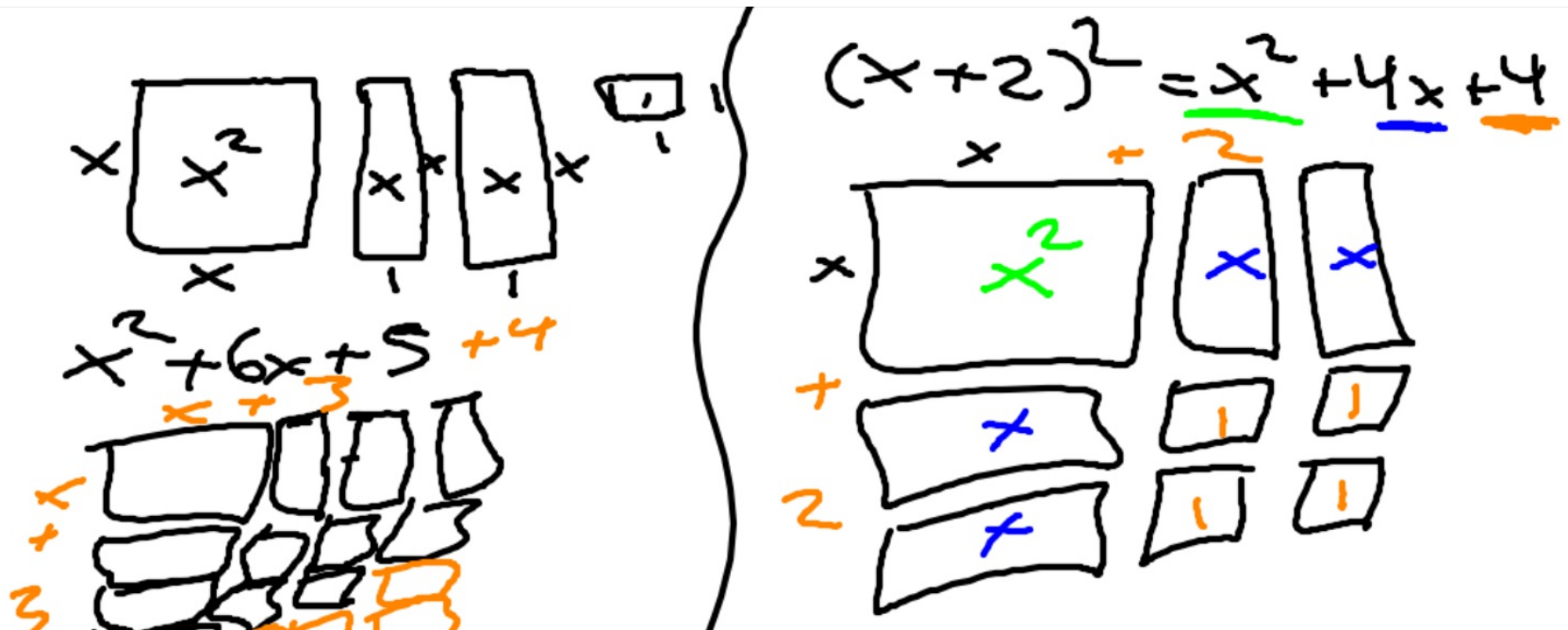
3. $x^2 + 18x + 81 = 15$ **$\{-12.87, -5.13\}$**

4. $9x^2 + 30x + 25 = 11$ **$\{-2.77, -0.56\}$**

5. **LASER LIGHT SHOW** The area A in square feet of a projected laser light show is given by $A = 0.16d^2$, where d is the distance from the laser to the screen in feet. At what distance will the projected laser light show have an area of 100 square feet? **25 ft**

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \sqrt{(x-4)^2} &= \sqrt{13} \\ x-4 &= \pm\sqrt{13} \\ +4 & \\ x &= 4 \pm\sqrt{13} \end{aligned}$$





2 Complete the Square All quadratic equations can be solved using the Square Root Property by manipulating the equation until one side is a perfect square. This method is called **completing the square**. $x^2 + 6x + 9 = (x+3)(x+3)$.

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Consider $x^2 + 16x = 9$. Remember to perform each operation on each side of the equation.

$$x^2 + 16x + \blacksquare = 9$$

What value is needed for the perfect square?

$$x^2 + 16x + 64 = 9 + 64$$

$\left(\frac{16}{2}\right)^2 = 64$; add 64 to each side.

$$x^2 + 16x + 64 = 73$$

Simplify.

$$(x + 8)^2 = 73$$

We can now use the Square Root Property.

Example 3 Complete the Square

Find the value of c that makes $x^2 + 16x + c$ a perfect square. Then write the trinomial as a perfect square.

Step 1 Find one half of 16.

$$\frac{16}{2} = 8$$

Step 2 Square the result in Step 1.

$$8^2 = 64$$

Step 3 Add the result of Step 2 to $x^2 + 16x$.

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

$$\left(\frac{-5}{2}\right)^2$$

The trinomial $x^2 + 16x + 64$ can be written as $(x + 8)^2$.

Find the value of c that makes each trinomial a perfect square. Then write the trinomial as a perfect square.

6. $x^2 - 10x + c$ **25; $(x - 5)^2$**

7. $x^2 - 5x + c$ **6.25; $(x - 2.5)^2$**

$$\frac{25}{4} \left(x - \frac{5}{2}\right)^2$$

Example 4 Solve an Equation by Completing the Square

Solve $x^2 + 10x - 11 = 0$ by completing the square.

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

$$x^2 + 10x = 11$$

$$x^2 + 10x + 25 = 11 + 25$$

$$(x + 5)^2 = 36$$

$$x + 5 = \pm 6$$

$$x = -5 \pm 6$$

$$x = -5 + 6 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -5 - 6$$

$$= 1 \qquad \qquad = -11$$

Notice that $x^2 + 10x - 11$ is not a perfect square.

Rewrite so the left side is of the form $x^2 + bx$.

Since $\left(\frac{10}{2}\right)^2 = 25$, add 25 to each side.

Write the left side as a perfect square.

Square Root Property

Subtract 5 from each side.

Write as two equations.

Simplify.

8. $x^2 + 2x - 8 = 0$ **$\{-4, 2\}$**

Example 5 Equation with $a \neq 1$

Solve $2x^2 - 7x + 5 = 0$ by completing the square.

$$2x^2 - 7x + 5 = 0$$

$$x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{5}{2} = 0$$

$$x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x = -\frac{5}{2}$$

$$x^2 - \frac{7}{2}x + \frac{49}{16} = -\frac{5}{2} + \frac{49}{16}$$

$$\left(x - \frac{7}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{9}{16}$$

$$x - \frac{7}{4} = \pm \frac{3}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{7}{4} \pm \frac{3}{4}$$

$$x = \frac{7}{4} + \frac{3}{4} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{7}{4} - \frac{3}{4}$$

$$= \frac{5}{2} \qquad = 1$$

10. $2x^2 - 3x - 3 = 0$ **$\{-0.69, 2.19\}$**

$$x^2 - \frac{3}{2}x - \frac{3}{2}$$

Notice that $2x^2 - 7x + 5$ is not a perfect square.

Divide by the coefficient of the quadratic term, 2.

Subtract $\frac{5}{2}$ from each side.

Since $\left(-\frac{7}{2} \div 2\right)^2 = \frac{49}{16}$, add $\frac{49}{16}$ to each side.

Write the left side as a perfect square by factoring.

Simplify the right side.

Square Root Property

Add $\frac{7}{4}$ to each side.

Write as two equations.

$$\sim 14 \quad \sim 12 \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

11. $2x^2 + 6x - 12 = 0$

$\{-4.37, 1.37\}$

$$x^2 + 3x - 6 = 0$$

$$\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{9}{4}$$

$$x^2 + 3x + \frac{9}{4} = 6 + \frac{9}{4}$$

$$\left(x + \frac{3}{2}\right)^2 =$$



Example 6 Equation with Imaginary Solutions

Solve $x^2 + 8x + 22 = 0$ by completing the square.

$$x^2 + 8x + 22 = 0$$

$$x^2 + 8x = -22$$

$$x^2 + 8x + 16 = -22 + 16$$

$$(x + 4)^2 = -6$$

$$x + 4 = \pm\sqrt{-6}$$

$$x + 4 = \pm i\sqrt{6}$$

$$x = -4 \pm i\sqrt{6}$$

Notice that $x^2 + 8x + 22$ is not a perfect square.

Rewrite so the left side is of the form $x^2 + bx$.

Since $\left(\frac{8}{2}\right)^2 = 16$, add 16 to each side.

Write the left side as a perfect square.

Square Root Property

$$\sqrt{-1} = i$$

Subtract 4 from each side.

$$9. \{2 - i\sqrt{5}, 2 + i\sqrt{5}\}$$

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

$$12. x^2 + 4x + 6 = 0$$

$$\{-2 - i\sqrt{2}, -2 + i\sqrt{2}\}$$

Examples 1–2 Solve each equation by using the Square Root Property. Round to the nearest hundredth if necessary. **14.** $\{-5.16, 1.16\}$ **15.** $\{-1.47, 7.47\}$ **16.** $\{-8.24, 0.24\}$ **17.** $\{-7.65, -2.35\}$
18. $\{-8.24, -3.76\}$

14. $x^2 + 4x + 4 = 10$

15. $x^2 - 6x + 9 = 20$

16. $x^2 + 8x + 16 = 18$

17. $x^2 + 10x + 25 = 7$

18. $x^2 + 12x + 36 = 5$

19. $x^2 - 2x + 1 = 4$ $\{-1, 3\}$

20. $x^2 - 5x + 6.25 = 4$

21. $x^2 - 15x + 56.25 = 8$

22. $x^2 + 32x + 256 = 1$ $\{-17, -15\}$

23. $x^2 - 3x + \frac{9}{4} = 6$

24. $x^2 + 7x + \frac{49}{4} = 4$

25. $x^2 - 9x + \frac{81}{4} = \frac{1}{4}$ $\{4, 5\}$

$\{-0.95, 3.95\}$

$\{-5.5, -1.5\}$

20. $\{0.5, 4.5\}$ **21.** $\{4.67, 10.33\}$

Example 3 Find the value of c that makes each trinomial a perfect square. Then write the trinomial as a perfect square.

26. $x^2 + 8x + c$ **16;** $(x + 4)^2$

27. $x^2 + 16x + c$ **64;** $(x + 8)^2$

28. $x^2 - 11x + c$ $\frac{121}{4}; (x - \frac{11}{2})^2$

29. $x^2 + 9x + c$ **20.25;** $(x + 4.5)^2$

Examples 4–6 Solve each equation by completing the square. **30.** $\{2 - 2i\sqrt{2}, 2 + 2i\sqrt{2}\}$ **31.** $\{-4.61, 2.61\}$

30. $x^2 - 4x + 12 = 0$

31. $x^2 + 2x - 12 = 0$

32. $x^2 + 6x + 8 = 0$ $\{-4, -2\}$

33. $x^2 - 4x + 3 = 0$ $\{1, 3\}$

34. $2x^2 + x - 3 = 0$

35. $x^2 - 3x + 5 = 0$

34. $\{-\frac{3}{2}, 1\}$

36. $2x^2 + 5x + 7 = 0$

37. $3x^2 - 6x - 9 = 0$

38. $x^2 - 2x + 3 = 0$

39. $x^2 + 4x + 11 = 0$

40. $x^2 - 6x + 18 = 0$

41. $x^2 - 10x + 29 = 0$

35–45. See Chapter 4 Answer Appendix.

42. $3x^2 - 4x = 2$

43. $2x^2 - 7x = -12$

44. $x^2 - 2.4x = 2.2$

45. $x^2 - 5.3x = -8.6$

46. $x^2 - \frac{1}{5}x - \frac{11}{5} = 0$

47. $x^2 - \frac{9}{2}x - \frac{24}{5} = 0$

$\{-1.39, 1.59\}$

$\{-0.89, 5.39\}$

Lesson 4-5

35. $\left\{\frac{3 - i\sqrt{31}}{4}, \frac{3 + i\sqrt{31}}{4}\right\}$

42. $\{-0.39, 1.72\}$

36. $\left\{\frac{-5 - i\sqrt{31}}{4}, \frac{-5 + i\sqrt{31}}{4}\right\}$

43. $\left\{\frac{7 - i\sqrt{47}}{4}, \frac{7 + i\sqrt{47}}{4}\right\}$

37. $\{-1, 3\}$

44. $\{-0.71, 3.11\}$

38. $\{1 - i\sqrt{2}, 1 + i\sqrt{2}\}$

45. $\{2.65 - i\sqrt{1.5775}, 2.65 + i\sqrt{1.5775}\}$

39. $\{-2 - i\sqrt{7}, -2 + i\sqrt{7}\}$

40. $\{3 - 3i, 3 + 3i\}$

41. $\{5 - 2i, 5 + 2i\}$

