

FACTORING REVIEW

FACTOR – TWO IMPORTANT MEANINGS

- (1) **Factor** (*verb*) – To rewrite a quantity as an equivalent product.
(2) **Factor** (*noun*) – Any individual component of a product.

Always keep in mind that when we **factor** (*verb*) a quantity, we are simply rewriting it in a different form that is completely equal to the original quantity.

GCF: Greatest Common Factor

What to look for:

Always look for this first – the terms will have a common factor

Directions: Factor each of the following expressions by “factoring out” the greatest common factor (GCF). The greatest common factor can be comprised of numbers, variables, or both.

(a) $6 - 14x$

$$2(3 - 7x)$$

(b) $30x^2 - 20$

$$10(x^2 - 2)$$

(c) $24x^3 + 20x^2$

$$4x^2(6x + 5)$$

DOTS: Difference Of Two Squares

What to look for:

1. Binomial
2. Subtraction
3. Perfect Square coefficients, constant terms, numerators and denominators of fractions.
Even exponents for variable terms.

Directions: Express each of the following binomials as the difference of perfect squares (DOTS).

(a) $4x^2 - 25$

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

(b) $16 - 81x^2$

$$(4 + 9x)(4 - 9x)$$

(c) $\underline{36x^2} - \underline{49y^2}$

$$(6x + 7y)(6x - 7y)$$

(d) $\underline{y^4} - \underline{100}$

$$(y^2 + 10)(y^2 - 10)$$

TRAM: TRinomial Add Multiply

What to look for: Trinomial (3 terms)

In Calc: $y_1 = \# / x$

Directions: Factor each of the following trinomials by using TRAM.

The easiest of all trinomial factoring occurs when the leading coefficient is one ($a=1$).

$y_2 = x + y_1$

$$\begin{array}{r} 28 \\ -7 \times -4 \\ -11 \end{array}$$

(a) $x^2 - 11x + 28$
 $(x-7)(x-4)$

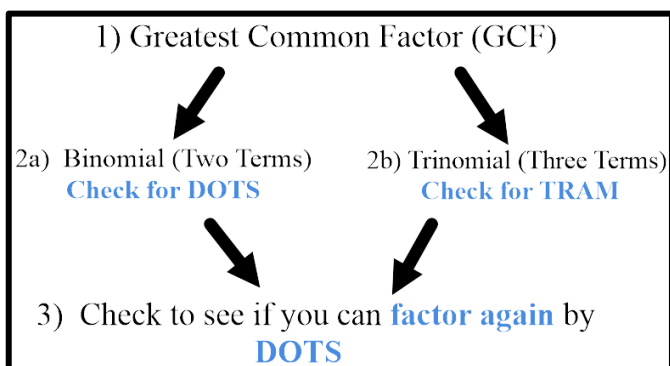
$$\begin{array}{r} -50 \\ -10 \times 5 \\ -5 \end{array}$$

(b) $x^2 - 5x - 50$
 $(x-10)(x+5)$

(c) $x^4 + 2x^2 - 35$
 $(x^2+7)(x^2-5)$

$$\begin{array}{r} -35 \\ 7 \times -5 \\ 2 \end{array}$$

Factoring Completely



Directions: Using a combination of **gcf**, **difference of perfect squares factoring**, and/or **tram factoring**. Write each of the following in its completely factored form.

$$\begin{array}{r} 22 \\ -11 \times -2 \\ 13 \end{array}$$

(a) $-x^2 + 13x - 22$
 $-1(x^2 - 13x + 22)$ GCF
 $-1(x-11)(x-2)$ TRAM

(b) $28x^2 - 7$
 $7(4x^2 - 1)$ GCF
 $7(2x+1)(2x-1)$ DOTS

(c) $x^5 - 1x$
 $x(x^4 - 1)$ GCF
 $x(x^2+1)(x^2-1)$ DOTS
 $x(x^2+1)(x+1)(x-1)$ DOTS

(d) $x^4 - 13x^2 + 36$
 $(x^2-4)(x^2-9)$
 $(x+2)(x-2)(x+3)(x-3)$

Name: key
Algebra II

Date: _____
Lesson 1-2

FACTORING REVIEW PRACTICE QUESTIONS
FACTOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING EXPRESSIONS

1) $x^2 - 13x + 22$

$(x - 11)(x - 2)$ TRAM

2) $\frac{1}{49}x^2 - 121$

$(\frac{1}{7}x + 11)(\frac{1}{7}x - 11)$ DOTS

3) $-x^2 + 5x - 6$

$-1(x^2 - 5x + 6)$ GCF

$-1(x - 2)(x - 3)$ TRAM

4) $27x^3 - 12x$

$3x(9x^2 - 4)$ GCF

$3x(3x + 2)(3x - 2)$ DOTS

5) $10x^2 + 100x + 250$

$10(x^2 + 10x + 25)$ GCF

$10(x + 5)(x + 5)$ TRAM
 $10(x + 5)^2$

6) $x^8 - 16$

$(x^4 + 4)(x^4 - 4)$ DOTS

$(x^4 + 4)(x^2 + 2)(x^2 - 2)$ DOTS

7) $4x^4 - 64$

$4(x^4 - 16)$ GCF

$4(x^2 + 4)(x^2 - 4)$ DOTS

$4(x^2 + 4)(x^2 + 2)(x^2 - 2)$ DOTS

8) $343x^2 - 7x^4$

$7x^2(49 - x^2)$ GCF

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

9) $x^4 + 4x^2 - 5$

$(x^2 + 5)(x^2 - 1)$ TRAM

$(x^2 + 5)(x + 1)(x - 1)$ DOTS

10) Challenge Question: $x^{2a} + 4x^a - 32$

$(x^a + 8)(x^a - 4)$ TRAM

PRACTICE ANSWERS

1. TRAM $(x - 11)(x - 2)$ ✓
2. DOTS $(\frac{1}{7}x - 11)(\frac{1}{7}x + 11)$ ✓
3. GCF→TRAM $-1(x - 2)(x - 3)$ ✓
4. GCF→DOTS $3x(3x + 2)(3x - 2)$ ✓
5. GCF→TRAM $10(x + 5)^2$ ✓
6. DOTS→DOTS $(x^2 + 2)(x^2 - 2)(x^4 + 4)$ ✓
7. GCF→DOTS→DOTS $4(x - 2)(x + 2)(x^2 + 4)$ ✓
8. GCF→DOTS $7x^2(7 - x)(7 + x)$ ✓
9. TRAM→DOTS $(x^2 + 5)(x - 1)(x + 1)$ ✓
10. TRAM $(x^a + 8)(x^a - 4)$ ✓