

# Lesson 6: Completing the Square Converting to APQ Form

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June 10, 2025

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# I) Perfect Trinomials - Part 1

## Key Concepts

- **When a perfect trinomial is factored, both binomials will be equal**

- $x^2 + 12x + 36 = (x + 6)(x + 6) = (x + 6)^2$

- $x^2 - 14x + 49 = (x - 7)(x - 7) = (x - 7)^2$

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

# I) Perfect Trinomials - Part 2

## Key Concepts (Cont.)

- The third term in a perfect trinomial is equal to the second term divided by 2 and then squared
  - $\left(\frac{12}{2}\right)^2 = 6^2 = 36$
  - $\left(\frac{-14}{2}\right)^2 = (-7)^2 = 49$
  - $\left(\frac{4}{2}\right)^2 = 2^2 = 4$
- The term in the binomial is equal to the second term divided by 2
  - $\frac{12}{2} = 6$
- When we CTS, we change the trinomial into a perfect trinomial

## II) What is Completing the Square?

### Key Concept

**Completing the Square** is a process that changes a quadratic function from:

**Standard Form:**  $y = Ax^2 + Bx + C$

to

**Vertex Form:**  $y = a(x - p)^2 + q$

# Example: Completing the Square (Part 1)

## Example: $y$

Starting with  $y = x^2 - 8x + 10$ :

- **Bracket the first two terms!**

$$y = (x^2 - 8x) + 10$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**
- The purpose is to make the expression in the bracket into a perfect square!

$$y = (x^2 - 8x + 16) + 10 - 16$$

- **Take the negative square outside of the brackets!**

$$y = (x^2 - 8x + 16) + (10 - 16)$$

## Example: Completing the Square (Part 2)

### Example: $y$

Continuing from  $y = (x^2 - 8x + 16) + (10 - 16)$ :

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$y = (x - 4)(x - 4) - 6$$

- **Simplified to Vertex Form:**

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

- Now the equation is in vertex form:  $a = 1$ ,  $p = 4$ ,  $q = -6$ .
- Vertex:  $(4, -6)$

# Practice: Complete the Square and Find the Vertex

## Problem

Complete the square and find the vertex for:

$$y = x^2 + 10x + 15$$



# Practice: Complete the Square and Find the Vertex (Solution) - Part 1

## Solution - Part 1

For  $y = x^2 + 10x + 15$ :

- **Bracket the first two terms!**

$$y = (x^2 + 10x) + 15$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**
- Purpose: Make the expression in the bracket into a perfect square!

$$y = (x^2 + 10x + 25) + 15 - 25$$

# Practice: Complete the Square and Find the Vertex (Solution) - Part 2

## Solution - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $y = (x^2 + 10x + 25) + 15 - 25$ :

- **Take the negative square outside of the brackets!**

$$y = (x^2 + 10x + 25) + (15 - 25)$$

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$y = (x + 5)(x + 5) - 10$$

- **Now the equation is in vertex form:**

$$y = (x + 5)^2 - 10$$

- Here,  $a = 1$ ,  $p = -5$ ,  $q = -10$ .
- **Vertex:**  $(-5, -10)$

### III) CTS with a Leading Coefficient

#### Key Steps

- Factor out any coefficient for  $x^2$

$$y = 3x^2 - 12x + 15$$

$$y = 3(x^2 - 4x) + 15$$

- Divide the second term by 2 and square it!
- This makes the expression in the bracket into a perfect square!

$$y = 3 \left( x^2 - 4x + \left( \frac{-4}{2} \right)^2 \right) + 15 - 3 \left( \frac{-4}{2} \right)^2$$

- Take the negative square outside of the brackets and multiply with coefficient in front!

$$y = 3(x^2 - 4x + 4) + 15 - 3(4)$$

$$y = 3(x^2 - 4x + 4) + 15 - 12$$

### III) CTS with a Leading Coefficient (Cont.)

#### Key Steps (Cont.)

Continuing for  $y = 3(x^2 - 4x + 4) + 15 - 12$ :

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

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

- **Now the equation is in vertex form:**

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

- Here,  $a = 3$ ,  $p = 2$ ,  $q = 3$ .
- **Vertex:**  $(2, 3)$

# Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Problem 1)

## Problem 1

Convert the following equation to APQ Form:

$$y = 4x^2 + 8x - 5$$

# Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Solution 1) - Part 1

## Solution 1 - Part 1

For  $y = 4x^2 + 8x - 5$ :

- **Factor out any coefficient for  $x^2$**

$$y = 4(x^2 + 2x) - 5$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**

$$y = 4 \left( x^2 + 2x + \left( \frac{2}{2} \right)^2 \right) - 5 - 4 \left( \frac{2}{2} \right)^2$$

$$y = 4(x^2 + 2x + 1) - 5 - 4(1)$$

## Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Solution 1) - Part 2

### Solution 1 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $y = 4(x^2 + 2x + 1) - 5 - 4$ :

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$y = 4(x + 1)(x + 1) - 9$$

- **Vertex Form:**

$$y = 4(x + 1)^2 - 9$$

## Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Problem 2)

### Problem 2

Convert the following equation to APQ Form:

$$y = \frac{1}{3}x^2 - 6x + 20$$



# Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Solution 2) - Part 1

## Solution 2 - Part 1

For  $y = \frac{1}{3}x^2 - 6x + 20$ :

- **Factor out any coefficient for  $x^2$**

$$y = \frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 18x) + 20$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**

$$y = \frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 18x + (-9)^2) + 20 - \frac{1}{3}(-9)^2$$

$$y = \frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 18x + 81) + 20 - \frac{1}{3}(81)$$

## Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Solution 2) - Part 2

### Solution 2 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $y = \frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 18x + 81) + 20 - \frac{1}{3}(81)$ :

- **Simplify constants**

$$y = \frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 18x + 81) + 20 - 27$$

$$y = \frac{1}{3}(x^2 - 18x + 81) - 7$$

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$y = \frac{1}{3}(x - 9)^2 - 7$$

## Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Problem 3)

### Problem 3

Convert the following equation to APQ Form:

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}x^2 + 2x - 1$$

# Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Solution 3) - Part 1

## Solution 3 - Part 1

For  $y = -\frac{1}{4}x^2 + 2x - 1$ :

- **Factor out any coefficient for  $x^2$**

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}(x^2 - 8x) - 1$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}(x^2 - 8x + (-4)^2) - 1 - \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)(-4)^2$$

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}(x^2 - 8x + 16) - 1 - \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)(16)$$

## Practice: Convert to APQ Form (Solution 3) - Part 2

### Solution 3 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $y = -\frac{1}{4}(x^2 - 8x + 16) - 1 - (-\frac{1}{4})(16)$ :

- **Simplify constants**

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}(x^2 - 8x + 16) - 1 + 4$$

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}(x - 4)^2 + 3$$

- **Vertex Form:**

$$y = -\frac{1}{4}(x - 4)^2 + 3$$

## IV) Solving Equations in APQ Form - Part 1

### Key Steps - Part 1

When an equation is in APQ form, solving for the x-intercepts requires very little algebra.

- ① **Step 1:** The "y" coordinate is zero at the x-intercept, so the "Y variable should be zero."

$$y = 2(x + 3)^2 - 18$$

$$0 = 2(x + 3)^2 - 18$$

- ② **Step 2:** Isolate the brackets with the exponent.

$$18 = 2(x + 3)^2$$

$$9 = (x + 3)^2$$

## IV) Solving Equations in APQ Form - Part 2

### Key Steps - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing from  $(x + 3)^2 = 9$ :

- ① **Step 3:** Square root both sides to get rid of the exponent. Remember: There are two answers! Positive & negative!

$$\pm\sqrt{9} = x + 3$$

$$\pm 3 = x + 3$$

- ② **Step 4:** Solve for "x" by adding/subtracting the constant.

$$x = -3 \pm 3$$

- ③ You now have two answers:

- $x_1 = -3 + 3 = 0$
- $x_2 = -3 - 3 = -6$

# Practice: Solve for "x" (Problem 1)

## Problem 1

Solve for "x":

$$(x + 8)^2 - 25 = 0$$



# Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 1) - Part 1

## Solution 1 - Part 1

For  $(x + 8)^2 - 25 = 0$ :

$$(x + 8)^2 = 25$$

$$x + 8 = \pm\sqrt{25}$$

$$x + 8 = \pm 5$$

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 1) - Part 2

### Solution 1 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $x + 8 = \pm 5$ :

$$x = -8 \pm 5$$

So,  $x_1 = -8 + 5 = -3$  and  $x_2 = -8 - 5 = -13$ .

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Problem 2)

### Problem 2

Solve for "x":

$$5(x - 4)^2 - 45 = 0$$

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 2)

### Solution 2

For  $5(x - 4)^2 - 45 = 0$ :

$$5(x - 4)^2 = 45$$

$$(x - 4)^2 = 9$$

$$x - 4 = \pm\sqrt{9}$$

$$x - 4 = \pm 3$$

$$x = 4 \pm 3$$

So,  $x_1 = 4 + 3 = 7$  and  $x_2 = 4 - 3 = 1$ .

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Problem 3)

### Problem 3

Solve for "x":

$$3x^2 + 7 = 0$$

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 3)

### Solution 3

For  $3x^2 + 7 = 0$ :

$$3x^2 = -7$$

$$x^2 = -\frac{7}{3}$$

Since a square cannot be negative, there are **No Real Solutions**.

## Practice: Solve for "x" by CTS (Problem 4)

### Problem 4

Solve for "x" by completing the square:

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

# Practice: Solve for "x" by CTS (Solution 4) - Part 1

## Solution 4 - Part 1

For  $0 = x^2 + 4x + 6$ :

- **Bracket the first two terms!**

$$0 = (x^2 + 4x) + 6$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**

$$0 = (x^2 + 4x + 4) + 6 - 4$$



# Practice: Solve for "x" by CTS (Solution 4) - Part 2

## Solution 4 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $0 = (x^2 + 4x + 4) + 6 - 4$ :

- **Take the negative square outside of the brackets!**

$$0 = (x^2 + 4x + 4) + 2$$

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$0 = (x + 2)^2 + 2$$

- **Solve for "x" by square rooting both sides:**

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

- Since a square cannot be negative, there are **No Real Solutions**.

# Practice: Solve for "x" by CTS (Problem 5)

## Problem 5

Solve for "x" by completing the square:

$$0 = 3x^2 + 9x - 6$$

# Practice: Solve for "x" by CTS (Solution 5) - Part 1

## Solution 5 - Part 1

For  $0 = 3x^2 + 9x - 6$ :

- **Factor out any coefficient for  $x^2$**

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

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**

$$0 = 3(x^2 + 3x + (1.5)^2) - 6 - 3(1.5)^2$$

$$0 = 3(x^2 + 3x + 2.25) - 6 - 6.75$$

- **Take the negative square outside of the brackets and multiply with coefficient in front!**

$$0 = 3(x^2 + 3x + 2.25) - 12.75$$

# Practice: Solve for "x" by CTS (Solution 5) - Part 2

## Solution 5 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $0 = 3(x^2 + 3x + 2.25) - 12.75$ :

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$0 = 3(x + 1.5)^2 - 12.75$$

- **Solve for "x" by square rooting both sides:**

$$12.75 = 3(x + 1.5)^2$$

$$4.25 = (x + 1.5)^2$$

$$\pm\sqrt{4.25} = x + 1.5$$

$$x = -1.5 \pm \sqrt{4.25}$$

- So,  $x_1 = -1.5 + \sqrt{4.25}$  and  $x_2 = -1.5 - \sqrt{4.25}$ .

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Problem 6)

### Problem 6

Solve for "x":

$$2x^2 + 16x + 30 = 0$$

# Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 6) - Part 1

## Solution 6 - Part 1

For  $2x^2 + 16x + 30 = 0$ :

- **Factor out any coefficient for  $x^2$**

$$0 = 2(x^2 + 8x) + 30$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**

$$0 = 2(x^2 + 8x + (-4)^2) + 30 - 2(-4)^2$$

$$0 = 2(x^2 + 8x + 16) + 30 - 2(16)$$

- **Simplify constants**

$$0 = 2(x^2 + 8x + 16) + 30 - 32$$

$$0 = 2(x^2 + 8x + 16) - 2$$

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 6) - Part 2

### Solution 6 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $0 = 2(x^2 + 8x + 16) - 2$ :

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$0 = 2(x + 4)^2 - 2$$

- **Solve for "x" by square rooting both sides:**

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

$$1 = (x + 4)^2$$

$$\pm\sqrt{1} = x + 4$$

$$x = -4 \pm 1$$

- So,  $x_1 = -4 + 1 = -3$  and  $x_2 = -4 - 1 = -5$ .

# Practice: Solve for "x" (Problem 7)

## Problem 7

Solve for "x":

$$0.25x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$$



# Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 7) - Part 1

## Solution 7 - Part 1

For  $0.25x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$ :

- **Factor out any coefficient for  $x^2$**

$$0 = 0.25(x^2 - 8x) + 1$$

- **Divide the second term by 2 and square it!**

$$0 = 0.25(x^2 - 8x + (-4)^2) + 1 - 0.25(-4)^2$$

$$0 = 0.25(x^2 - 8x + 16) + 1 - 0.25(16)$$

- **Simplify constants**

$$0 = 0.25(x^2 - 8x + 16) + 1 - 4$$

## Practice: Solve for "x" (Solution 7) - Part 2

### Solution 7 - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $0 = 0.25(x^2 - 8x + 16) + 1 - 4$ :

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$0 = 0.25(x - 4)^2 - 3$$

- **Solve for "x" by square rooting both sides:**

$$3 = 0.25(x - 4)^2$$

$$12 = (x - 4)^2$$

$$\pm\sqrt{12} = x - 4$$

$$\pm 2\sqrt{3} = x - 4$$

$$x = 4 \pm 2\sqrt{3}$$

- So,  $x_1 = 4 + 2\sqrt{3}$  and  $x_2 = 4 - 2\sqrt{3}$ .

## IV) CTS with Algebra Tiles

Concept:  $y$

The tiles can be organized together to become a square

- Side 1:  $x + 5$
- Side 2:  $x + 5$
- So,  $(x + 5)(x + 5) = (x + 5)^2$

## IV) CTS with Algebra Tiles (Cont.)

### Concept: $y$

The equation is now in vertex form. Create a bunch of zero pairs to complete the square.

- Side 1:  $x - 3$
- Side 2:  $x - 3$
- Additional constant:  $-7$
- So,  $(x - 3)^2 - 7$

# Word Problem: Rock Thrown into Air (Problem)

## Problem

A rock is thrown into the air. The height of the rock is given by the formula:

$$h(t) = -3.5t^2 + 18t + 4$$

Where "H" is the height in meters and "T" is the time after the rock is thrown in seconds.

- 1 Convert the following equation to APQ form.
- 2 When will the rock be at the maximum height?
- 3 What is the maximum height?

# Word Problem: Rock Thrown into Air (Solution Part A) - Part 1

## Solution Part A: Convert to APQ Form - Part 1

For  $h(t) = -3.5t^2 + 18t + 4$ :

- Factor out any coefficient for  $t^2$

$$h(t) = -3.5 \left( t^2 - \frac{18}{3.5}t \right) + 4$$

$$h(t) = -3.5(t^2 - 5.142857t) + 4 \quad (\text{approx.})$$

- Divide the second term by 2 and square it!

$$h(t) = -3.5 \left( t^2 - 5.142857t + \left( \frac{-5.142857}{2} \right)^2 \right) + 4 - (-3.5) \left( \frac{-5.142857}{2} \right)^2$$

$$h(t) = -3.5(t^2 - 5.142857t + (2.5714285)^2) + 4 + 3.5(2.5714285)^2$$

# Word Problem: Rock Thrown into Air (Solution Part A) - Part 2

## Solution Part A: Convert to APQ Form - Part 2 (Cont.)

Continuing for  $h(t) = -3.5(t^2 - 5.142857t + (2.5714285)^2) + 4 + 3.5(2.5714285)^2$ :

- **Simplify and combine constants**

$$h(t) = -3.5(t^2 - 5.142857t + 6.612244) + 4 + 23.142854$$

- **The trinomial becomes two equal binomials**

$$h(t) = -3.5(t - 2.5714285)^2 + 27.142854$$

- **APQ Form:**

$$h(t) = -3.5(t - 2.57)^2 + 27.14 \quad (\text{approx.})$$

# Word Problem: Rock Thrown into Air (Solution Part B C)

## Solution Part B C: Max Height

For  $h(t) = -3.5(t - 2.57)^2 + 27.14$ :

- The rock will be at maximum height at the vertex of the equation.
- From the APQ form, the vertex is  $(p, q) = (2.57, 27.14)$ .
- **When will the rock be at the maximum height?**
  - **Answer:** Approximately 2.57 seconds.
- **What is the maximum height?**
  - **Answer:** Approximately 27.14 meters.