

AA PREP—SOLVING QUADRATIC EQUATIONS LECTURE

Methods for Solving Quadratic Equations:

- 1) Taking Square Root
- 2) Factoring
- 3) Quadratic Formula
- 4) Complete the Square

QUADRATIC FORMULA: $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

Solve each quadratic equation using the specified method. Simplify radicals!

EX 1: Solve by taking the square root.

a) $\sqrt{x^2} = 50$

$$x = \pm \sqrt{50}$$

$25 \cdot 2$

$5 \cdot 5$

$$x = \pm 5\sqrt{2}$$

b) $\frac{2}{3}(x-1)^2 + 5 = 17$

$$\frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{2}{3} (x-1)^2 = \frac{12}{3} \cdot \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\sqrt{(x-1)^2} = \sqrt{18}$$

$$x-1 = \pm \sqrt{18}$$

$9 \cdot 2$

$$x-1 = \pm 3\sqrt{2}$$

$$x = 1 \pm 3\sqrt{2}$$

EX 2: Solve by factoring.

DIFF OF 2 SQUARES

a) $4x^2 - 25 = 0$

$$(2x)^2 (5)^2$$

$$(2x-5)(2x+5) = 0$$

$$2x-5 = 0$$

$$\frac{2}{2}x = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$2x+5 = 0$$

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

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

b) $-x^2 - x + 72 = 0$ (CF!)

$$-(x^2 + x - 72) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} -72 & a \cdot c & \\ -8 & \times & 9 \\ 1 & b & \end{array}$$

$$-(x-8)(x+9) = 0$$

$$x-8 = 0 \quad x+9 = 0$$

$$x = 8 \quad x = -9$$

BASIC QUADRATIC TRINOMIAL $a=1$

EX 3: Solve using quadratic formula.

a) $x^2 - 2x - 8 = 0$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(1)(-8)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = 4$$

$$x = -2$$

$a=1$
 $b=-2$
 $c=-8$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4+32}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{36}}{2} = \frac{2+6}{2} = 4$$

$$= \frac{2-6}{2} = \frac{-4}{2} = -2$$

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

$$a=1 \quad x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{6^2 - 4(1)(-4)}}{2(1)}$$

$$b=6 \quad x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{36+16}}{2}$$

$$c=-4 \quad x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{52}}{2} = \frac{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{13}}{2}$$

$$x = -3 \pm \sqrt{13}$$

EX 4: Solve by completing the square.

a) $x^2 - 8x - 12 = 0$

$$x^2 - 8x = 12$$

$$\frac{-b}{2} = \frac{-(-8)}{2} = 4$$

$$(-4)^2 = 16$$

$$x^2 - 8x + 16 = 12 + 16$$

$$\sqrt{(x-4)^2} = \sqrt{28}$$

$$x-4 = \pm 2\sqrt{7}$$

$$x = 4 \pm 2\sqrt{7}$$

b) $4x^2 + 24x - 9 = 0$

$$4x^2 + 24x = 9$$

$$4(x^2 + 6x) = 9$$

$$\frac{b}{2} = \frac{6}{2} = 3$$

$$3^2 = 9$$

$$4(x^2 + 6x + 9) = 9 + 36$$

$$(x+3)^2 = \frac{45}{4}$$

$$\sqrt{(x+3)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{45}{4}} = \frac{\sqrt{45}}{\sqrt{4}} = \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$x+3 = \pm \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$x = -3 \pm \frac{3\sqrt{5}}{2}$$