

2 Common Monomial Factors

Now you can find common factors of variable expressions.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} 2a = 2 \cdot a \\ 6a^2 = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot a \cdot a \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} 2 \cdot a, \text{ or } 2a, \text{ is the} \\ \text{greatest common factor.} \end{array}$$

Use this idea to find a common monomial factor of the terms of a polynomial. When you do this, you **factor** the polynomial.

$$\begin{aligned} 2a + 6a^2 &= (2a \cdot 1) + (2a \cdot 3a) \\ &= 2a(1 + 3a) \end{aligned}$$

This is a common monomial factor of $2a$ and $6a^2$.

Check: Use the distributive property. $\rightarrow 2a(1 + 3a) = 2a + 6a^2 \checkmark$

EXAMPLE 1

Factor $3x^2 - ax^2$.

$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 - ax^2 &= (3 \cdot x^2) - (a \cdot x^2) \\ &= x^2(3 - a) \end{aligned}$$

With practice you will be able to recognize the common monomial factors at sight.

EXAMPLE 2

$$12mx - 6m^2x^2 = 6mx(2 - mx)$$

$6mx \cdot 2$ $6mx \cdot mx$

EXAMPLE 3

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

$x \cdot x^2$ $x \cdot x$ $2 \cdot x$

EXAMPLE 4

$$y^4 + y^3 + 4y^2 = y^2(y^2 + y + 4)$$

$y^2 \cdot y^2$ $y^2 \cdot y$ $4 \cdot y^2$

Classroom Practice

Complete.

1. $4xy = 4x(\underline{\quad?})$

3. $3x^2y^2 = 3xy(\underline{\quad?})$

5. $72b^2 = 8b(\underline{\quad?})$

2. $25x^2 = 5x(\underline{\quad?})$

4. $36a^3 = 12a^2(\underline{\quad?})$

6. $40a^4b^4 = 4a^2b^2(\underline{\quad?})$

Find the greatest common factor of the monomial pair.

7. $2a, 6a$

8. $15n, 5n$

9. $n^2, 3n$

10. $3x, 6x^2$

Factor.

11. $3x + 2x^2$

12. $2a^2 + 4a$

13. $7x^3 + 7x^2$

14. $3x^2 + 6xy$

Written Exercises

Factor.

A

1. $9 + 3x$

2. $5 - 15n$

3. $2x - 10$

4. $4y - 16$

5. $3x^2 - x$

6. $5n^2 - 2n$

7. $2x^2 - 6x$

8. $y^2 - 2y$

9. $28n^2 - 7n$

10. $2xy - y^2$

11. $4x^2 - 8x$

12. $21y^2 - 7xy$

13. $25mn - 5m^2n^2$

14. $8a^2b - 24ab^2$

15. $9x^2 - 27x^2y$

16. $12a^2 + 36a^2b$

17. $3x^2 - 6x + 21$

18. $5n^3 + 15n^2 + 25n$

19. $55y^2 + 22y + 44$

20. $2n^2 + 4mn + 80m^2$

21. $4a^2 + 12ab - 16b^2$

22. $3x^2 - 12xy + 9y^2$

B

23. $6x^2 + 6x + 24xy + 42$

24. $-13x + 26x^2 + 39x^3$

25. $-50a^2 + 25b^2 + 75ab$

26. $48mn + 72m^2n^2 + 60m^3n^3$

27. $56x^3y^3 - 72x^2y^2 - 64xy$

28. $32a^2b^4 - 16ab^3 + 48a^3b^5$

C

29. $x(a - b) + 2(a - b)$

30. $y(a + d) - 4(a + d)$

31. $mn - nx + my - xy$

32. $ab - 3ad + b^2 - 3bd$

33. $2a - a^2 + 2b - ab$

34. $3x^2 - 2xy - 3x + 2y$

35. $2x^2 - 8 + x^2y - 4y$

36. $a^3 - ab^2 - a^2b + b^3$

4 Factoring Trinomials—Two Sums

Up to now the only trinomials you have factored are those having a common monomial factor.

$$3x^3 + 2x^2 + x = x(3x^2 + 2x + 1)$$

Common monomial factor

Not all trinomials can be factored, but in the next few lessons you will see that many are the product of two binomials. For example, if $(x + 2)(x + 3) = x^2 + 5x + 6$, then we know that $x^2 + 5x + 6$ has two factors, $x + 2$ and $x + 3$.

Recall how to multiply two binomials at sight.

$$\text{Step 1: } \underline{(x + 2)}(x + 3) = x^2 \dots$$

$$\text{Step 2: } \underline{(x + 2)}(x + 3) = x^2 + 5x \dots$$

$$\text{Step 3: } \underline{(x + 2)}(x + 3) = x^2 + 5x + 6$$

Now reverse this process to find the factors.

$$\text{Step 1: } x^2 + 5x + 6 = (\quad)(\quad)$$

Draw your parentheses.

$$\text{Step 2: } x^2 + 5x + 6 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$$

Your first terms must give you x^2 .

$$\text{Step 3: } x^2 + 5x + 6 = (x \ ? \)(x \ ? \)$$

What two numbers have a product of 6?

1 and 6 2 and 3

Which of the pairs of factors of 6 have a sum of 5?

2 and 3

$$\text{Step 4: } x^2 + 5x + 6 = (x + 2)(x + 3)$$

Of course, you should check to see if your answer is correct.

$$(x + 2)(x + 3) = x^2 + 5x + 6 \quad \checkmark$$

Study these two examples.

EXAMPLE 1 Factor $x^2 + 7x + 10$.

Step 1: $x^2 + 7x + 10 = (\quad)(\quad)$

Step 2: $x^2 + 7x + 10 = (x \quad)(x \quad)$

Step 3: $x^2 + 7x + 10 = (x ?)(x ?)$

What two numbers have a product of 10?

1 and 10 2 and 5

Which of the pairs of factors of 10 have a sum of 7?

2 and 5

Step 4: $x^2 + 7x + 10 = (x + 2)(x + 5)$

EXAMPLE 2 Factor $a^2 + 10a + 16$.

Step 1: $a^2 + 10a + 16 = (\quad)(\quad)$

Step 2: $a^2 + 10a + 16 = (a \quad)(a \quad)$

Step 3: $a^2 + 10a + 16 = (a ?)(a ?)$

What two numbers have a product of 16?

1 and 16 2 and 8
4 and 4

Which of the pairs of factors of 16 have a sum of 10?

2 and 8

Step 4: $a^2 + 10a + 16 = (a + 2)(a + 8)$

Classroom Practice

Name the possible pairs of factors.

1. 10

2. 7

3. 9

4. 6

5. 11

6. 12

7. 15

8. 17

9. 16

10. 20

11. 21

12. 24

13. 25

14. 30

15. 36

Written Exercises

Complete.

| | If the product of two numbers is: | → and their sum is: → | then the two numbers are: |
|--------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Sample | 18 | 11 | 2 and 9 |
| A 1. | 5 | 6 | ? |
| 2. | 6 | 5 | ? |
| 3. | 8 | 6 | ? |
| 4. | 12 | 8 | ? |
| 5. | 12 | 7 | ? |
| 6. | 9 | 6 | ? |
| 7. | 15 | 8 | ? |
| 8. | 14 | 9 | ? |
| 9. | 18 | 9 | ? |
| 10. | 20 | 9 | ? |
| 11. | 21 | 10 | ? |
| 12. | 24 | 14 | ? |
| 13. | 24 | 11 | ? |
| 14. | 36 | 13 | ? |
| 15. | 36 | 12 | ? |

16. $x^2 + 8x + 7 = (x \text{ ?})(x \text{ ?})$

17. $a^2 + 7a + 6 = (a \text{ ?})(a \text{ ?})$

18. $n^2 + 9n + 20 = (n \text{ ?})(n \text{ ?})$

19. $x^2 + 9x + 18 = (x \text{ ?})(x \text{ ?})$

20. $y^2 + 9y + 14 = (y \text{ ?})(y \text{ ?})$

21. $r^2 + 10r + 21 = (r \text{ ?})(r \text{ ?})$

Factor. Check by multiplication.

22. $y^2 + 3y + 2$

25. $a^2 + 5a + 4$

28. $x^2 + 11x + 18$

Factor.

31. $x^2 + 9x + 14$

34. $r^2 + 11r + 30$

37. $x^2 + 12x + 32$

40. $a^2 + 9a + 20$

B 43. $x^2 + 27x + 50$

46. $x^2 + 20x + 64$

23. $n^2 + 17n + 16$

26. $m^2 + 7m + 6$

29. $n^2 + 6n + 8$

32. $a^2 + 9a + 18$

35. $b^2 + 12b + 27$

38. $y^2 + 24y + 23$

41. $a^2 + 12a + 20$

44. $x^2 + 17x + 72$

47. $a^2 + 24a + 63$

24. $y^2 + 16y + 15$

27. $x^2 + 11x + 10$

30. $y^2 + 6y + 9$

33. $y^2 + 12y + 11$

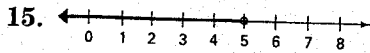
36. $m^2 + 11m + 28$

39. $x^2 + 13x + 30$

42. $n^2 + 12n + 35$

45. $m^2 + 28m + 75$

48. $y^2 + 24y + 44$



17. $25a^2 - 10a + 1$ 19. $a = 4$
 21. $-12x^4y^6$ 23. $x^3 - x^2 - 10x + 12$
 25. $-7 < 0 < 2$ 27. $(x^3 + 2x^2)$ cubic
 units 29. $45m^7n^6$ 31. 15 cm
 33. 0, 1, 2, 3 35. $>$ 37. $a = 2$
 39. $h = 9$

CHAPTER 6

Written Exercises, page 187

1. $2 \cdot 3 \cdot 7$ 3. $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3$ 5. $2 \cdot 5 \cdot 31$
 7. $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5$ 9. $2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 13$
 11. 3 13. 7 15. 1 17. 11 19. 16
 21. 12 23. 14 25. 25 27. 4 29. 8
 31. 4 33. 20 35. 6 37. 100

Written Exercises, page 189

1. $3(3 + x)$ 3. $2(x - 5)$ 5. $x(3x - 1)$
 7. $2x(x - 3)$ 9. $7n(4n - 1)$
 11. $4x(x - 2)$ 13. $5mn(5 - mn)$
 15. $9x^2(1 - 3y)$ 17. $3(x^2 - 2x + 7)$
 19. $11(5y^2 + 2y + 4)$
 21. $4(a^2 + 3ab - 4b^2)$
 23. $6(x^2 + x + 4xy + 7)$
 25. $25(-2a^2 + b^2 + 3ab)$
 27. $8xy(7x^2y^2 - 9xy - 8)$
 29. $(x + 2)(a - b)$ 31. $(n + y)(m - x)$
 33. $(2 - a)(a + b)$ 35. $(x^2 - 4)(y + 2)$

Written Exercises, page 191

1. $(4 - \pi)r^2$ 3. $(a^2 - b^2)\pi$ 5. 72
 7. $x^2(1 - \pi) + 5(x + 3)$

Written Exercises, pages 194-195

1. 1, 5 3. 2, 4 5. 3, 4 7. 3, 5 9. 3, 6
 11. 3, 7 13. 3, 8 15. 6, 6
 17. $(a + 6)(a + 1)$ 19. $(x + 6)(x + 3)$
 21. $(r + 3)(r + 7)$ 23. $(n + 1)(n + 16)$
 25. $(a + 1)(a + 4)$ 27. $(x + 1)(x + 10)$
 29. $(n + 4)(n + 2)$ 31. $(x + 7)(x + 2)$
 33. $(y + 1)(y + 11)$ 35. $(b + 3)(b + 9)$
 37. $(x + 4)(x + 8)$ 39. $(x + 3)(x + 10)$
 41. $(a + 2)(a + 10)$ 43. $(x + 25)(x + 2)$
 45. $(m + 25)(m + 3)$ 47. $(a + 21)(a + 3)$

Written Exercises, page 197

1. -3, -2 3. -6, -3 5. -6, -4
 7. $(x - 5)(x - 2)$ 9. $(x - 3)(x - 2)$
 11. $(y - 5)(y - 1)$ 13. $(x - 3)(x - 8)$
 15. $(n + 6)(n + 3)$ 17. $(n - 4)(n - 8)$
 19. $(x + 4)(x + 2)$ 21. $(y - 7)(y - 8)$
 23. $(n + 5)(n + 5)$ 25. $(y - 6)(y - 8)$
 27. $(x - 7)(x - 7)$ 29. $(m - 5)(m - 8)$
 31. $(z - 2)(z - 16)$ 33. $(y - 3)(y - 12)$
 35. $(d - 5)(d - 9)$ 37. $(x - 2)(x - 50)$

Written Exercises, page 199

1. yes 3. yes 5. no 7. $(a + 5)^2$
 9. $(x + 4)^2$ 11. $(x - 2)^2$ 13. $(y + 7)^2$
 15. $(n + 9)^2$ 17. $(x - 9)(x - 10)$
 19. $(a - b)^2$ 21. $(1 - 10x)^2$

Written Exercises, page 202

1. -5, 2 3. -4, 1 5. -2, 1 7. -10, 3
 9. 7, -4 11. 14, -1 13. $(x + 7)(x - 3)$
 15. $(x + 9)(x - 2)$ 17. $(b - 3)(b + 4)$
 19. $(n - 6)(n + 3)$ 21. $(x - 5)(x + 4)$
 23. $(y - 1)(y + 15)$ 25. $(b + 6)(b - 4)$
 27. $(b - 10)(b + 3)$ 29. $(x + 14)(x - 2)$
 31. $(y + 8)(y - 4)$ 33. $(y + 9)(y - 3)$
 35. $(m - 4)(m + 16)$ 37. $(n - 9)(n + 7)$
 39. $(y - 6)(y + 7)$ 41. $(y + 7)(y - 8)$
 43. $(c - 4)(c + 20)$ 45. $(a - 4)(a + 25)$

Mixed Practice Exercises, page 203

1. $(x + 9)(x + 1)$ 3. $(n - 6)(n - 2)$
 5. $(y - 3)(y + 4)$ 7. $(y - 7)(y + 3)$
 9. $(x + 3)(x + 7)$ 11. $(b - 1)(b + 5)$
 13. $(b - 7)(b - 1)$ 15. $(y - 4)(y + 5)$
 17. $(x + 7)(x + 5)$ 19. $(n - 7)(n - 8)$
 21. $(x + 9)(x + 6)$ 23. $(n + 9)(n + 5)$
 25. $(n - 10)(n + 5)$ 27. $(y + 26)(y - 2)$
 29. $(a + 4)(a - 11)$ 31. $(c - 6)(c + 10)$
 33. $(m - 4)(m - 10)$ 35. $4x - 4$
 37. $4y - 4$

Written Exercises, page 205

1. $n^2 - 49$ 3. $a^2 - 100$ 5. $m^2 - n^2$
 7. $x^2 - y^2$ 9. $1 - 4x^2$ 11. $9x^2 - 4$
 13. $25y^2 - 4$ 15. $81m^2 - n^2$
 17. $25x^2 - 36$ 19. $25x^2 - 9y^2$
 21. $100x^2 - 25y^2$ 23. $a^4 - 4$ 25. 399
 27. 2496 29. 896 31. 8091 33. 864
 35. 3575 37. 6384 39. 2496