

Basic Factoring

Look for "common" power

① Common: $15x^4 - 10x^3$
 $= 5x^3(3x - 2)$

Expand

$$2x^2(5x - 3)$$

Expanding

$$= (2x^2)(5x) - (2x^2)(3)$$

Factoring

$$= 10x^3 - 6x^2$$

② Group: $6x^3 - 12x + 3x^2 - 6$ 4 terms

(Nash's Trick!) $= \frac{6x}{2x} (x^2 - 2) + \frac{3}{3} (x^2 - 2)$ 2 terms

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

③ trinomial (3 terms)

$(x+3)(x-5)$

$= x(x-5) + 3(x-5)$

$= x^2 - 5x + 3x - 15$

$= x^2 - 2x - 15$

↑

$x^2 + 8x + 15$

x	+	15
15	8	

$= (x+5)(x+3)$

$x^2 + 5x + 3x + 15$

$= x(x+5) + 3(x+5)$

$= (x+5)(x+3)$

Always look for common factors

$2x^3 - 10x^2 - 48x$

$= 2x(x^2 - 5x - 24)$

x	+	-24
-24	-5	

$= 2x(x-8)(x+3)$

Trinomials w/ "a" $\neq 1$

" $ax^2 + bx + c$ "

eg Factor $10x^2 + x - 3$
(no common factoring)

Decomposition

$$10x^2 + x - 3$$

x	+
(10)(-3)	+1
-30	

6, -5

$= 10x^2 + 6x - 5x - 3$

$= 2x(5x + 3) - 1(5x + 3)$

$= (5x + 3)(2x - 1)$

"Criss-Cross"

$$10x^2 + x - 3$$

1st 3rd

$5x + 3$	6x
$2x - 1$	-5x

$(5x + 3)(2x - 1)$

Slide & Divide.

$$10x^2 + x - 3$$

x | +

x	+
-30	+1

6, -5

divide what you slide

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + x - 30$$

$$\left(x + \frac{6}{10}\right) \left(x - \frac{5}{10}\right)$$

reduce fractions

$$\left(x + \frac{3}{5}\right) \left(x - \frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= (5x + 3)(2x - 1)$$