

1. Without a calculator identify the zeros of the following polynomial

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

To do this I will need to factor the polynomial. I used my factoring decision tree to determine the best method of factoring this polynomial.

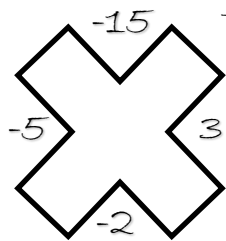
1<sup>st</sup> Question: Does it have a GCF? Yes!  $x$  can be factored out of each term in the polynomial so the GCF is  $x$ .

$$y = x(x^2 - 2x - 15)$$

2<sup>nd</sup> Question: How many terms does the resulting quadratic have? Three!

3<sup>rd</sup> Questions: Are the first and last terms perfect squares? No! Does  $a=1$ ? Yes! Since  $a=1$ , I can use the diamond shortcut.

I know that  $a \cdot c$  goes into the top of the diamond and  $b$  goes into the bottom of the diamond. Then I must find two integers that multiply to the top number and add to the bottom number.



The two integers that multiply to  $-15$  and add to  $-2$  are  $-5$  and  $3$ . Since  $a=1$ , I can put these integers directly into factored form.

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

Now that the polynomial is completely factored, I set each factor equal to zero and solve for  $x$  to find the zeros.

$$\begin{array}{l} x = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x - 5 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x + 3 = 0 \\ x = 0 \quad \quad \quad x = 5 \quad \quad \quad x = -3 \end{array}$$

Additional Practice:

- 1) Without a calculator identify the zeros of the following polynomial:  $y = 3x^4 + 3x^3 - 36x^2$

1<sup>st</sup> Question: Does it have a GCF?

- What number goes into each term of the polynomial?
- What shared variable does each term have?
- What is the highest exponent that each term has?
- Now, what is the greatest common factor of the terms of the polynomial?
- Factor out the GCF.

2<sup>nd</sup> Question: How many terms does it have?

- The remaining polynomial should be quadratic with three terms.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Questions: Are the first and last terms perfect squares? Is a = 1? Is a ≠ 1?**

- g. Based on your answers above, factor the remaining quadratic.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- h. Put all the factors together to make a “factored form” equation. Now set the equation equal to zero in place of y.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- i. If the factors must multiply to equal zero, then one of the factors must be zero. Set each factor equal to zero then solve each individual equation.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- j. You should have found three zeros. One of them has multiplicity. Which one? What is the multiplicity of that zero?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- k. How will these zeros show up on the graph?

2) Build a polynomial in standard form with the following zeros.  $x = 3$  with a multiplicity of 2 and  $x = -1$ .

I know that each zero gets its own factor. If  $r$  is a zero then  $(x-r)$  is a factor. Multiplicity of 2 means the root repeats. I will show this by squaring the factor that has that zero.

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

Now to get the polynomial in standard form I will need to multiply out the factors. I can use the distributive property to multiply two of them and then take the result and multiply with the third one, OR I can use the perfect square trinomial shortcut then the distributive property with the third factor. Finally, I combine like terms.

$$y = (x - 3)(x - 3)(x + 1)$$
$$y = (x^2 - 6x + 9)(x + 1)$$
$$y = x(x^2 - 6x + 9) + 1(x^2 - 6x + 9)$$
$$y = x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x + x^2 - 6x + 9$$
$$y = x^3 - 5x^2 + 3x + 9$$

**Additional Practice:**

**2) Given a polynomial has zeros at  $x=2$  and  $x=-1$  with a multiplicity of 2, find:**

- a. A polynomial equation in factored form that will have these same zeros.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b. The standard form of the equation you just wrote. (This means you have to multiply it out. Be careful with the squared factor!)

1) Without a calculator identify the zeros of the following polynomial

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

To do this I will need to factor the polynomial. I used my factoring decision tree to determine the best method of factoring this polynomial.

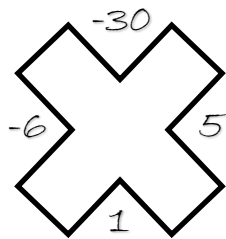
1<sup>st</sup> Question: Does it have a GCF? Yes!  $x$  can be factored out of each term in the polynomial so the GCF is  $x$ .

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

2<sup>nd</sup> Question: How many terms does the resulting quadratic have? Three!

3<sup>rd</sup> Questions: Are the first and last terms perfect squares? No! Does  $a=1$ ? No! Since  $a=2$ , I need to use the diamond and reverse the distributive property.

I know that  $a*c$  goes into the top of the diamond and  $b$  goes into the bottom of the diamond. Then I must find two integers that multiply to the top number and add to the bottom number.



The two integers that multiply to $-30$ and add to $1$ are $-6$ and $5$ . I use these coefficients to split the middle term and pair the terms.	$2x^2 + x - 15$ $(2x^2 - 6x) + (5x - 15)$
Then I factor a GCF out of each pair and make sure the parenthesis match.	$2x(x - 3) + 5(x - 3)$
Last, I create a binomial factor from the GCF's and the other binomial factor is what is in the parenthesis.	$(2x + 5)(x - 3)$

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

Now that the polynomial is completely factored, I set each factor equal to zero and solve for  $x$  to find the zeros.

$$x = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad 2x - 5 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad x + 3 = 0$$

$$x = 0 \quad \quad \quad x = \frac{5}{2} \quad \quad \quad x = -3$$

Additional Practice:

1) Without a calculator identify the zeros of the following polynomial:  $y = 3x^4 + 3x^3 - 36x^2$

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- g. Based on your answers above, factor the remaining quadratic.
- h. Put all the factors together to make a “factored form” equation. Now set the equation equal to zero in place of y.
- i. If the factors must multiply to equal zero, then one of the factors must be zero. Set each factor equal to zero then solve each individual equation.
- j. You should have found three zeros. One of them has multiplicity. Which one? What is the multiplicity of that zero?
- k. How will these zeros show up on the graph?

2) Build a polynomial in standard form with the following zeros.  $x = 3$  with a multiplicity of 2 and  $x = \frac{1}{2}$ .

I know that each zero gets its own factor. If r is a zero then  $(x-r)$  is a factor. Multiplicity of 2 means the root repeats. I will show this by squaring the factor that has that zero. Since the other zero is a fraction, I can use the numerator as my r-value and the denominator as the coefficient on x.

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

Now to get the polynomial in standard form I will need to multiply out the factors. I can use the distributive property to multiply two of them and then take the result and multiply with the third one, OR I can use the perfect square trinomial shortcut then the distributive property with the third factor. Finally, I combine like terms.

$$\begin{aligned}y &= (x - 3)(x - 3)(2x - 1) \\y &= (x^2 - 6x + 9)(2x - 1) \\y &= 2x(x^2 - 6x + 9) - 1(x^2 - 6x + 9) \\y &= 2x^3 - 12x^2 + 18x - x^2 + 6x - 9 \\y &= 2x^3 - 13x^2 + 24x - 9\end{aligned}$$

**Additional Practice:**

**2) Given a polynomial has zeros at  $x=2$  and  $x=-1$  with a multiplicity of 2, find:**

- a. A polynomial equation in factored form that will have these same zeros.
- b. The standard form of the equation you just wrote. (This means you have to multiply it out. Be careful with the squared factor!)