

**CCGPS Analytic Geometry**  
**Factoring Quadratics using "Lizzie Method (Star Method) "**

In the previous lesson, we factored polynomials by identifying the GCF among the terms of the polynomial. Sometimes a polynomial has other factors besides a GCF that multiply to make it. Therefore, we need to learn other methods for factoring.

Follow these steps to factor a quadratic polynomial using the Lizzie Method (Star Method) :

1. Multiply the \_\_\_\_\_ times the \_\_\_\_\_.
2. List factor pairs for the product from step 1.
3. Find a pair of factors from step 2 that total to the \_\_\_\_\_ of the middle term.
4. Write the two factors of the polynomial as  $(x + \underline{\quad}) (x + \underline{\quad})$  with the two factors from step 3 filling in the blanks.
- 5.
6. Set the factors equal to 0 to solve.

For today's lesson, all of the leading coefficients will be 1. We will add more steps to Lizzie in the next lesson when the leading coefficients are numbers other than 1.

**Example:** Factor  $x^2 + 7x + 10$  using the steps to the Lizzie Method.

1. Multiply  $a * c$  : \_\_\_\_\_
2. List factor pairs of  $ac$  :
3. The pair of factors that total to  $b$  are \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The factored form of the polynomial is  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Solutions: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Example:** Factor  $x^2 + 8x - 20$  using the steps to the Lizzie Method.

1. Multiply  $a * c$  : \_\_\_\_\_
2. List factor pairs of  $ac$  :
3. The pair of factors that total to  $b$  are \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The factored form of the polynomial is  
\_\_\_\_\_.
5. Solutions: \_\_\_\_\_.

**Examples:** Factor and solve each polynomial.

a.  $z^2 + 11z + 24 = 0$

b.  $y^2 - 14y - 15 = 0$

c.  $m^2 - 7m - 30 = 0$

d.  $g^2 - 9 = 0$

e.  $r^2 + 12r - 45 = 0$

f.  $a^2 - 14ab + 49b^2 = 0$

g.  $b^2 + 16 = 0$

h.  $u^2 - 100 = 0$

## Factoring with "Lizzie Method" Practice Day 1

Solve each equation by factoring.

1)  $n^2 + n - 6 = 0$

2)  $b^2 - 7b + 6 = 0$

3)  $x^2 - 7x = 0$

4)  $k^2 - 12k + 35 = 0$

5)  $n^2 - 7n + 12 = 0$

6)  $p^2 - 8p + 15 = 0$

7)  $x^2 + 5x - 6 = 0$

8)  $n^2 - 7n + 10 = 0$

9)  $p^2 - 4p - 32 = 0$

10)  $b^2 - 4 = 0$

**CCGPS Analytic Geometry  
Factoring Quadratics using "Lizzie Method (Star Method)"**

Tues  
1/13/2015  
Key

In the previous lesson, we factored polynomials by identifying the GCF among the terms of the polynomial. Sometimes a polynomial has other factors besides a GCF that multiply to make it. Therefore, we need to learn other methods for factoring.

Follow these steps to factor a quadratic polynomial using the **Lizzie Method (Star Method)**:

1. Multiply the     a     times the     c    .
2. List factor pairs for the product from step 1.
3. Find a pair of factors from step 2 that total to the     b     of the middle term.
4. Write the two factors of the polynomial as  $(x + \underline{\quad})(x + \underline{\quad})$  with the two factors from step 3 filling in the blanks.
- 5.
6. Set the factors equal to 0 to solve.

For today's lesson, all of the leading coefficients will be 1. We will add more steps to Lizzie in the next lesson when the leading coefficients are numbers other than 1.

$a=1$   $c=10$   
 $b=7$

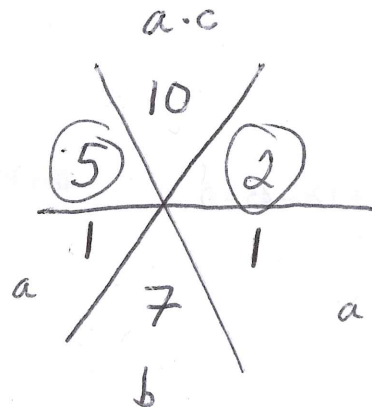
**Example:** Factor  $x^2 + 7x + 10$  using the steps to the Lizzie Method.

1. Multiply  $a * c$  : \_\_\_\_\_
2. List factor pairs of  $ac$  :
3. The pair of factors that total to  $b$  are \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The factored form of the polynomial is

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

5. Solutions: \_\_\_\_\_.

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

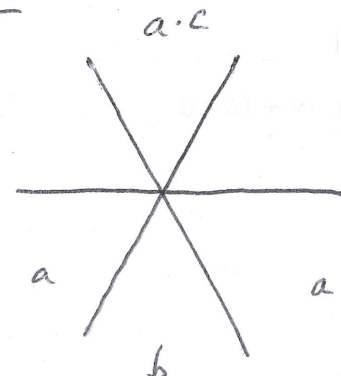


**Example:** Factor  $x^2 + 8x - 20$  using the steps to the Lizzie Method.

1. Multiply  $a * c$  : \_\_\_\_\_
2. List factor pairs of  $ac$  :
3. The pair of factors that total to  $b$  are \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The factored form of the polynomial is

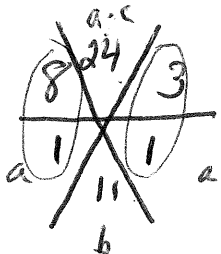
\_\_\_\_\_.

5. Solutions: \_\_\_\_\_.



**Examples:** Factor and solve each polynomial.

a.  $z^2 + 11z + 24 = 0$  GCF: 1  $a=1$   
 $b=11$   
 $c=24$



$$\frac{8}{\underline{\quad}} \times \frac{3}{\underline{\quad}} = 24 \checkmark$$

$$\frac{8}{\underline{\quad}} + \frac{3}{\underline{\quad}} = 11 \checkmark$$

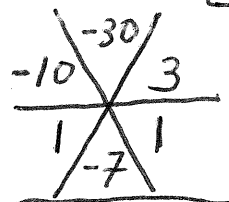
$$(x+8)(x+3) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l} x+8=0 & x+3=0 \\ -8 & -3 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{x=-8} \quad \boxed{x=-3}$$

c.  $m^2 - 7m - 30 = 0$

GCF: 1  
 $a=1$   
 $b=-7$   
 $c=-30$



$$\frac{-10}{\underline{\quad}} \times \frac{3}{\underline{\quad}} = -30 \checkmark$$

$$\frac{-10}{\underline{\quad}} + \frac{3}{\underline{\quad}} = -7 \checkmark$$

$$\boxed{(x-10)(x+3)}$$

$$\boxed{x=10, -3}$$

e.  $r^2 + 12r - 45 = 0$

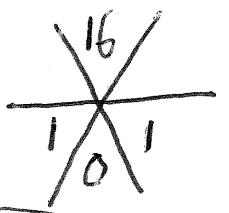
$$(r-3)(r+15)$$

$$r=3, r=-15$$

g.  $b^2 + 16 = 0$  GCF: 1

$$b^2 + 0b + 16 \quad \underline{\quad} \times \underline{\quad} = 16$$

$a=1$   
 $b=0$   
 $c=16$

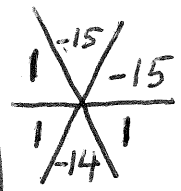


$$\underline{\quad} + \underline{\quad} = 0$$

Not factorable  
prime

$a=1$   
 $b=-14$   
 $c=-15$

b.  $y^2 - 14y - 15 = 0$  GCF: 1



$$\frac{1}{\underline{\quad}} \times \frac{-15}{\underline{\quad}} = -15 \checkmark$$

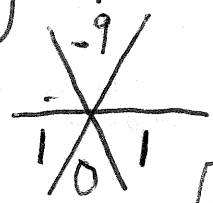
$$\frac{1}{\underline{\quad}} + \frac{-15}{\underline{\quad}} = -14 \checkmark$$

$$(x-15)(x+1) \text{ factored form}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} (x-15=0) \quad (x+1=0) \\ \boxed{x=15, x=-1} \end{array} \text{ solution}$$

d.  $g^2 - 9 = 0$

$g^2 + 0g - 9$   
 $a=1$   
 $b=0$   
 $c=-9$



GCF: 1  
 $\frac{3}{\underline{\quad}} \times \frac{-3}{\underline{\quad}} = -9$   
 $\frac{3}{\underline{\quad}} + \frac{-3}{\underline{\quad}} = 0$

$$\boxed{(x-3)(x+3)}$$

$$\boxed{x=3, x=-3}$$

\*f.  $a^2 - 14ab + 49b^2 = 0$

$$(a-7b)(a-7b)$$

$$a=7b, a=-7b$$

h.  $u^2 - 100 = 0$

$$(u-10)(u+10)$$

$$u=10, -10$$

Factoring with "Lizzie Method" Practice Day 1

Solve each equation by factoring.

1)  $n^2 + n - 6 = 0$

$\{-3, 2\}$

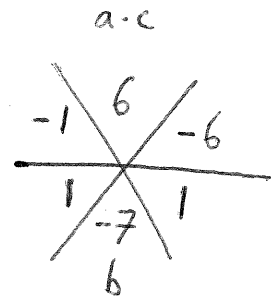
2)  $b^2 - 7b + 6 = 0$

$\{1, 6\}$

$(b - \frac{1}{1})(b - \frac{6}{1}) = 0$

$(b - 1)(b - 6) = 0$

$b = 1, b = 6$



3)  $x^2 - 7x = 0$

$\{7, 0\}$

4)  $k^2 - 12k + 35 = 0$

$\{5, 7\}$

5)  $n^2 - 7n + 12 = 0$

$\{4, 3\}$

6)  $p^2 - 8p + 15 = 0$

$\{3, 5\}$

7)  $x^2 + 5x - 6 = 0$

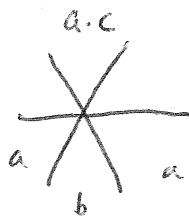
$\{-6, 1\}$

8)  $n^2 - 7n + 10 = 0$

$\{2, 5\}$

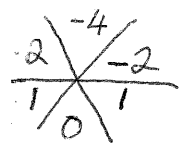
9)  $p^2 - 4p - 32 = 0$

$\{8, -4\}$



10)  $b^2 - 4 = 0$

$\{-2, 2\}$



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