

9.5 Notes

Completing the Square - when a doesn't equal 1

What do we need to add to these expressions to complete the square (create a perfect square)?

1. $2x^2 + 16x + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}(x + \underline{\hspace{1cm}})^2$

2. $3x^2 - 6x + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}(x - \underline{\hspace{1cm}})^2$

How did you find the c value in $ax^2 + bx + c$ when there is a number in front of a?

Ex. 1: Solve by completing the square.

$$2x^2 - 12x + 16 = 0$$

- 1) Isolate the $ax^2 + bx$ on one side.
- 2) Factor out the a from $ax^2 + bx$
- 3) Determine what you need to add in the parenthesis to the right side to complete the square. **To keep the equation balanced, you need to add the same amount to each side, but be careful!!!**
- 4) Write the left side as a squared binomial.
- 5) Solve the quadratic by taking the square root of both sides and continue to solve.

Ex. 2: Solve by completing the square.

$$4x^2 + 16x - 8 = 0$$

You Try! Solve by completing the square.

$$5x^2 + 10x - 15 = 0$$

Ex. 3: Write in Vertex Form by Completing the Square.

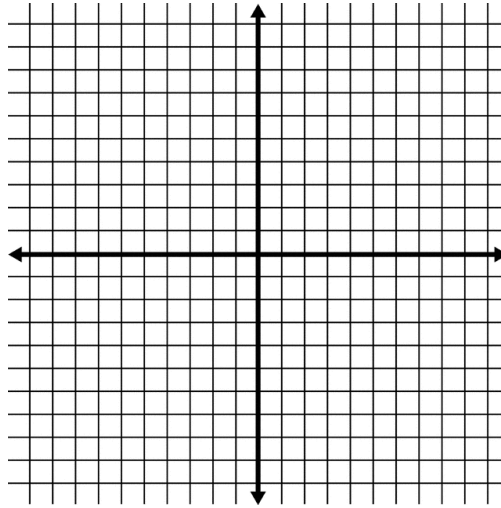
Vertex Form: _____

$$y = 2x^2 - 8x + 11$$

- 1) Isolate the $(ax^2 + bx)$
- 2) Factor out the a from $ax^2 + bx$
- 3) Complete the square in the parenthesis. **Subtract outside the parenthesis to keep the equation balanced. Again, remember to multiply what you are subtracting by a .**
- 4) Simplify the parenthesis to a squared binomial

Ex. 4: Write in vertex form and graph.

$$y = 2x^2 - 4x + 5$$



Ex.5: A hedge maze has a 2 yard wide walkway around it. What are the dimensions of the maze with the walkway, if the length of the hedge maze is twice as long as the width?

