

3.3 Common Factors of a Polynomial

Lesson Focus

Model and record factoring a polynomial

Reminder

- *What is a **GCF**?*
- *Ex. What is the GCF between the following numbers:*
 - *12 and 18 = 6*
 - *4x and 8 = 4*
 - *3x² and 9x = 3x*

Polynomials



Polynomials

*Now we're going to do the same thing, however we're going to have multiple **terms***

Monomial – polynomial with 1 term

Binomial – polynomial with 2 terms

Polynomial – polynomial with 3 or more terms

*Now we need to find the **GCF** of multiple terms, and factor it out*

This is the first step towards factoring polynomials

Reminder – Multiply Monomials

Determine each product.

a) $(5x)(2x)$

$$= 10x^2$$

b) $(3x)(2y)$

$$= 6xy$$

Multiply the coefficients

Add the exponents of the same variables

If variables are different, write in alphabetic order

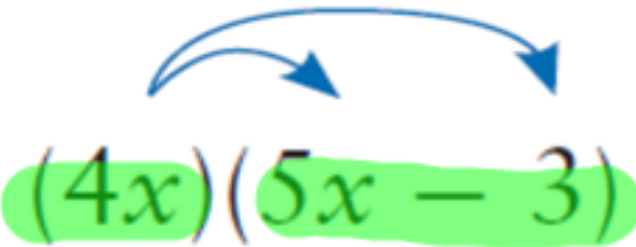
Variables always come AFTER the coefficient

Reminder - Distributive Property

Distributive Property - Multiply the monomial by each **term** in the **polynomial**

Then we're just multiplying monomials

Ex:


$$(4x)(5x - 3)$$
$$= 20x^2 - 12x$$

In Algebra

Expand an expression to form a product.

$$3(2 - 5a) = 6 - 15a$$

Factor a polynomial by writing it as a product of factors.

$$6 - 15a = 3(2 - 5a)$$

Factoring Polynomials

To **multiply** polynomials:

Multiply the coefficients

Add the exponents of the same variables

If variables are different, write in alphabetic order

To **Factor** polynomials:

Divide the coefficient by the factor

Subtract exponents

Leave variables that can not be factored out

Example Binomials

GCF

Factor each binomial.

a) $6n + 9$

$$= 3(2n + 3)$$

b) $6c + 4c^2$

$$= 2c(3 + 2c)$$

Example – Your Turn Binomials

Factor each binomial.

a) $3g + 6$ b) $8d + 12d^2$
 $4d(2+3d)$

Example – Your Turn Trinomials

Factor the trinomial $5 - 10z - 5z^2$.

$$= 5(1 - 2z - z^2)$$

Factor the trinomial

$$6 - 12z + 18z^2$$

$$= 6(1 - 2z + 3z^2)$$

Example – Extend More than one variable

Factor the trinomial. Verify that the factors are correct.

$$-12x^3y - 20xy^2 - 16x^2y^2$$

$$= -4xy(3x^2 + 5y + 4xy)$$

Example – Your Turn More than one variable

Factor the trinomial. Verify that the factors are correct.

$$-20c^4d - 30c^3d^2 - 25cd$$

$$\underbrace{ab + b + 2a + 2}_{\text{Grouping}}$$

$$= b(a+1) + 2(a+1)$$

$$= (a+1)(b+2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \underbrace{mx + gx} + \underbrace{my + gy} \\ &= x(\cancel{m+g}) + y(\cancel{m+g}) \\ &= (m+g)(x+y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\underbrace{2rs + 4s}_{2s(r+2)} - \underbrace{r - 2}_{(r+2)}$$

$$= 2s(r+2) - 1(r+2)$$

$$= (r+2)(2s-1)$$

$$x^2y + 6x - 3x^3 - 2y$$

$$\underbrace{x^2y - 2y} + \underbrace{6x - 3x^3}$$

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

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

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

Homework

P. 154-156

5, 6, 8, 10, 14, 16

Handout "Factoring GCF" and Factoring By Grouping