

C11 - 3.0 - Completing the Square Notes

Check by FOIL!

Standard form \rightarrow Vertex form Vertex = (p, q)

$y = ax^2 + bx + c \rightarrow y = a(x - p)^2 + q$

$y = x^2 + 6x + c$

$y = x^2 + 6x + 9$

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

$y = (x + 3)^2$

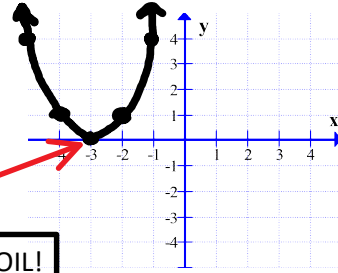
$\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{6}{2}\right)^2 = (3)^2 = 9$

"b" divided by 2
all squared:

Factor

Vertex form: Vertex = $(-3, 0)$

Check by FOIL!



a = 1

$y = x^2 - 4x + 3$

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

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

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

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

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

Group x terms

$\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{-4}{2}\right)^2 = (-2)^2 = 4$

"b" divided by 2
all squared:

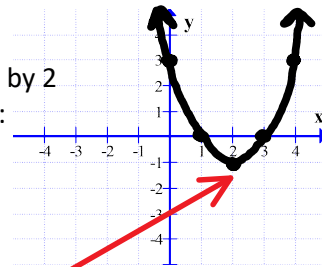
Add and subtract inside brackets

Remove number not contributing
to the perfect square (-ve)

Factor brackets, simplify outside

Vertex form: Vertex = $(2, -1)$

Check by FOIL!



a ≠ 1

$y = 2x^2 - 8x + 3$

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

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

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

$y = 2(x^2 - 4x + 4) - 8 + 3$

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

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

Group x terms

Check by FOIL!

Factor out coefficient of x^2

$\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{-4}{2}\right)^2 = (-2)^2 = 4$

New "x" coefficient
divided by 2 all squared:

Add and subtract inside brackets

Remove number not contributing
to perfect square (-ve)

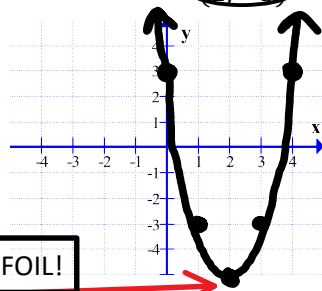
Don't forget to multiply by "a"

Factor brackets, simplify outside

Vertex form: Vertex = $(2, -5)$

Check by FOIL!

OR $\left(\frac{-b}{2a}, y\right)$
 $\left(\frac{-(-8)}{2(2)}, y\right) \quad x \mid y$
 $(2, y)$
 $(2, -5)$



$y = \left(\frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{4}x\right) + 2$

Remember: $\frac{b^*}{2}$ is the number that goes inside the brackets with x. vertex: $\left(\frac{-b}{2a}, y\right)$

$y = \frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x\right) + 2$

Remove GCF

$\frac{1}{4} \div \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{2}{1} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$

Divide Fractions

Check by FOIL!

$y = \frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{16} - \frac{1}{16}\right) + 2$

$\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{2}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{16}$

$\frac{1}{2} \div \frac{1}{1} = \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)$

$y = \frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{16}\right) - \frac{1}{32} + 2$

$-\frac{1}{16} \times \frac{1}{2} = -\frac{1}{32}$

Multiply Fractions

$y = \frac{1}{2}\left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{16}\right) + \frac{63}{32}$

$-\frac{1}{32} + 2 = -\frac{1}{32} + \frac{2}{1} \times \frac{32}{32} = -\frac{1}{32} + \frac{64}{32} = \left(\frac{63}{32}\right)$

$y = \frac{1}{2}\left(x + \frac{1}{4}\right)^2 + \frac{63}{32}$

Vertex Form: Vertex: $\left(-\frac{1}{4}, \frac{63}{32}\right)$

Add/Subtract Fractions