

# Completing the $\square$

**COMPLETING THE SQUARE! (PUTTING QUADRATICS INTO VERTEX FORM)**  
Let's look at  $y = x^2 + 6x + 9$ . This is called a perfect square. That means that I can easily write this one in factored and vertex form.

Ex. 1

a. Factor  $y = x^2 + 6x + 9$  to put it into intercept form:

$$y = (x+3)(x+3) \quad \begin{array}{cc} +b & \frac{b^2}{4} \\ 3+3 & \frac{3 \cdot 9}{3 \cdot 3} \end{array}$$

b. How can I write that intercept form equation in vertex form?

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

Because I had a perfect square trinomial, I could put  $y = x^2 + 6x + 9$  into vertex form.

A perfect square trinomial is one that can be written as  $(x \pm h)^2$

Ex. 2

a. Is  $y = x^2 + 10x + 25$  a perfect square? Why or why not? yes!  $5+5=10$   $5 \cdot 5=25$

b. Write  $y = x^2 + 10x + 25$  in intercept form.  $y = (x+5)(x+5)$

c. Write  $y = x^2 + 10x + 25$  in vertex form:  $y = (x+5)^2$

What if I am looking at a trinomial that is not a perfect square? Can I put that into vertex form?

Ex. 3.

a. Is  $y = x^2 + 6x + 7$  a perfect square? Why or why not? NO!! There are no two numbers that multiply to 7 and add to 6

b. We can make part of it into a perfect square. Let's COMPLETE THE  $\square$

$$y = (x^2 + 6x + \frac{9}{4}) + 7 - \frac{9}{4}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $\frac{b}{2} = 3 \rightarrow 3^2 = 9$

\* You must also subtract to maintain equality

$$y = (x+3)^2 + 7 - \frac{9}{4}$$

c. Now let's write the perfect square trinomial in binomial notation and simplify!

Vertex form:  $(x+3)^2 - 2$

Vertex:  $(-3, -2)$

$y = x^2 + (a+b)x + ab$

**YOU TRY!**

Put the following standard form equations into vertex form.

$1. y = x^2 + 10x + 24$

$$y = (x^2 + 10x + 25) + 24 - 25$$

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

$2. y = x^2 + 8x + 19 \quad \frac{8}{2} = 4$

$$y = (x^2 + 8x + 16) + 19 - 16$$

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

$3. y = x^2 - 6x + 10$

$$\frac{-b}{2} = -3 \rightarrow 3^2 = 9$$

$$y = (x^2 - 6x + 9) + 10 - 9$$

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

$4. y = x^2 - 12x - 6$

$$\frac{-12}{2} = -6 \rightarrow -6^2 = 36$$

$$y = (x^2 - 12x + 36) - 6 - 36$$

$$y = (x - 6)^2 - 42$$

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COMPLETING THE SQUARE WHEN a IS NOT 1!

1.  $y = 3x^2 + 9x + 6$

$3[x^2 + 3x + 2] \quad \frac{3}{2} = 1.5 \rightarrow 1.5^2 = 2.25$

$3[(x^2 + 3x + 2.25) + 2 - 2.25]$

$3[(x + 1.5)^2 - .25]$

$y = 3(x + 1.5)^2 - .75$

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

$-1[x^2 - 5x + 4] \quad \frac{-5}{2} = -2.5 \rightarrow 2.5^2 = 6.25$

$-1[(x^2 - 5x + 6.25) + 4 - 6.25]$

$-1[(x - 2.5)^2 - 2.25]$

$y = -(x - 2.5)^2 + 2.25$

2.  $y = 2x^2 + 6x + 5$

$\frac{3}{2} = 1.5 \rightarrow 1.5^2 = 2.25$

$2[x^2 + 3x + 2.5]$

$2[(x^2 + 3x + 2.25) + 2.5 - 2.25]$

$2[(x + 1.5)^2 + .25]$

$y = 2(x + 1.5)^2 + .5$

4.  $y = x^2 - 7x + 4$

$-\frac{7}{2} = -3.5 \rightarrow 3.5^2 = 12.25$

$(x^2 - 7x + 12.25) + 4 - 12.25$

$y = (x - 3.5)^2 - 8.25$

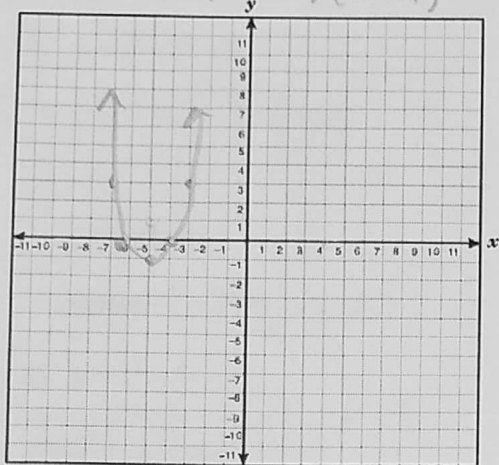
Completing the square

Sketch a graph by plotting the vertex, plotting the roots, and connecting them to make a parabola.

1)  $y = x^2 + 10x + 24$

Vertex Form:  $y = (x+5)^2 - 1$

Factored Form:  $(x+6)(x+4)$

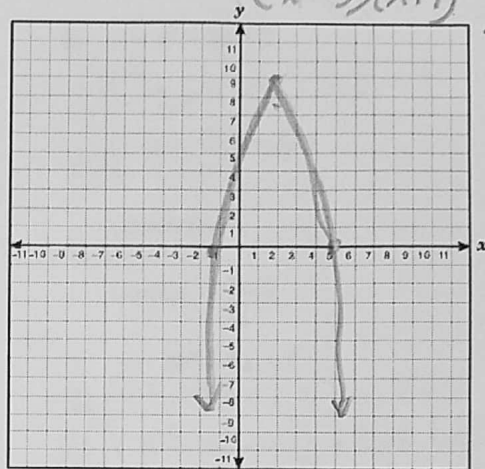


2)  $y = -(x-2)^2 + 9$

Standard Form:  $y = -x^2 + 4x + 5$

Factored Form:  $-(x-5)(x+1)$

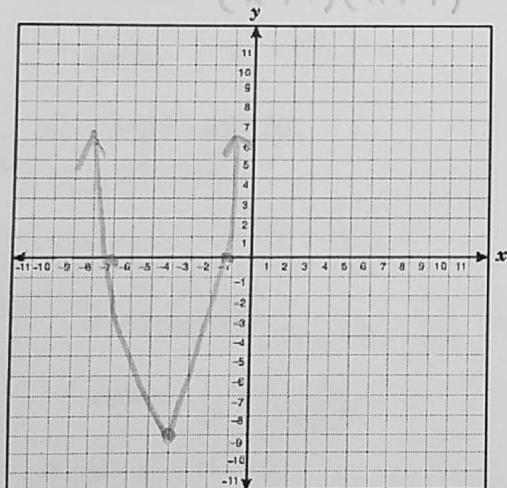
$x$	$-2$
$x^2$	$-2x$
$-2$	$+4$



3) Standard Form:  $y = x^2 + 8x + 7$

Vertex Form:  $y = (x+4)^2 - 9$

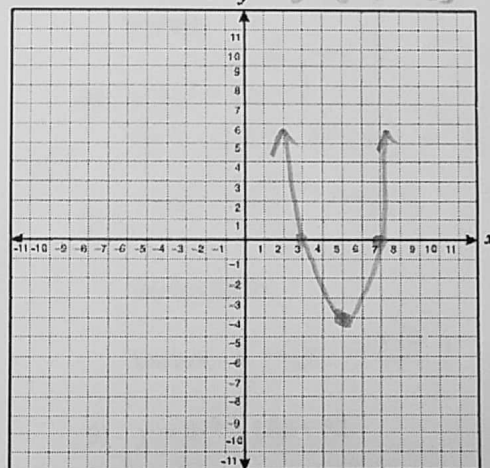
Factored Form:  $(x+1)(x+7)$



4) Standard Form:  $y = x^2 - 10x + 21$

Vertex Form:  $y = (x-5)^2 - 4$

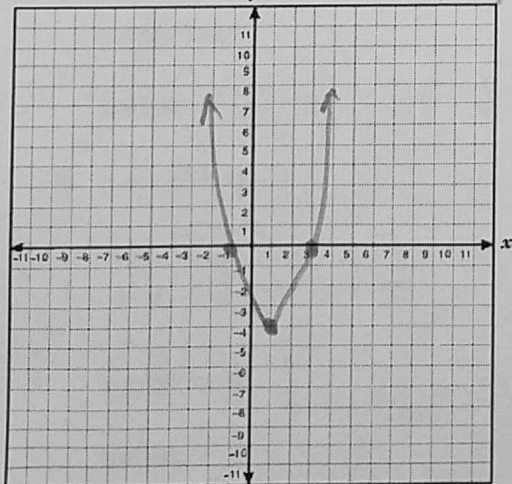
Factored Form:  $(x-7)(x-3)$



5) Standard Form:  $y = x^2 - 2x - 3$

Vertex Form:  $y = (x-1)^2 - 4$

Factored Form:  $(x-3)(x+1) = y$

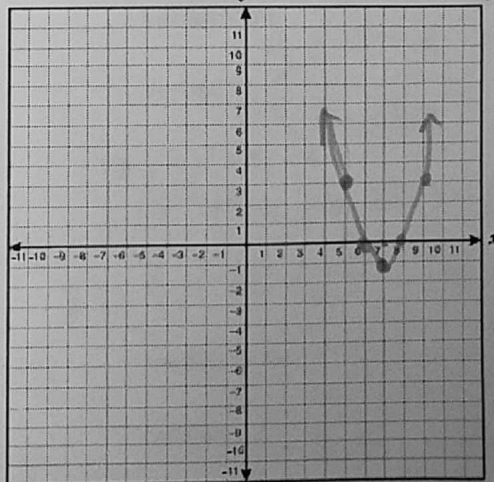


6)  $y = (x-7)^2 - 1$

Standard Form:  $x^2 - 14x + 48 = y$

Factored Form:  $(x-8)(x-6) = y$

$x$	$-7$
$x^2$	$-7x$
$-7$	$+49$



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Completing the Square

Rewrite each quadratic equation in vertex form by completing the square. Then state the vertex.

1)  $y = x^2 + 7x + 4$

$$y = (x + 3.5)^2 - 8.25$$

Vertex form:

Vertex:  $(-3.5, -8.25)$

2)  $y = x^2 - 6x - 4$

$$y = (x^2 - 6x + 9) - 4 - 9$$

$$y = (x - 3)^2 - 13$$

Vertex form:

Vertex:  $(3, -13)$

3)  $y = 2x^2 - 8x + 20$

$$2(x^2 - 4x + 10)$$

$$2[(x^2 - 4x + 4) + 10 - 4]$$

$$2[(x - 2)^2 + 6]$$

Vertex form:  $y = 2(x - 2)^2 + 12$

Vertex:  $(2, 12)$

4)  $y = x^2 - 11x + 5$

$$y = (x^2 - 11x + 30.5) + 5 - 30.25$$

$$y = (x - 5.5)^2 - 25.25$$

Vertex form:

Vertex:  $(5.5, -25.25)$

5)  $y = -x^2 + 4x - 1$

$$-(x^2 - 4x + 1)$$

$$-[(x^2 - 4x + 4) + 1 - 4]$$

$$-[(x - 2)^2 - 3]$$

Vertex form:  $y = -(x - 2)^2 + 3$

Vertex:

$(2, 3)$

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

$$(x^2 + 2x + 1) + 2 - 1$$

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

Vertex form:

Vertex:  $(-1, 1)$

7)  $y = 2x^2 - 8x + 7$

$$2(x^2 - 4x + 3.5)$$

$$2[(x^2 - 4x + 4) + 3.5 - 4]$$

$$2[(x - 2)^2 - 0.5]$$

Vertex form:  $y = 2(x - 2)^2 - 1$

Vertex:

$(2, -1)$

8)  $y = x^2 + 12x + 7$

$$(x^2 + 12x + 36) + 7 - 36$$

$$y = (x + 6)^2 - 29$$

Vertex form:

Vertex:  $(-6, -29)$

9)  $y = 4x^2 - 16x + 52$

$$4(x^2 - 4x + 13)$$

$$4[(x^2 - 4x + 4) + 13 - 4]$$

$$4[(x - 2)^2 + 9]$$

Vertex form:  $y = 4(x - 2)^2 + 36$

Vertex:

$(2, 36)$

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

$$(x^2 + 5x + 6.25) - 4 - 6.25$$

$$y = (x + 2.5)^2 - 10.25$$

Vertex form:

Vertex:  $(-2.5, -10.25)$