



Expanding and factorising quadratics (double brackets)

Expanding a quadratic is just like multiplying 2-digit numbers – use a multiplication grid, then add your answers:



Factorising a quadratic is the opposite of expanding it – you're putting it back into brackets (if you can). You can still use the grid, but do it in reverse:

$$x^2 + 7x + 12 = (x+3)(x+4)$$

×	(x	+3
x	x ²	+3 <i>x</i>
+4	+4 <i>x</i>	+12

We know from expanding that the two numbers in my brackets will add to make 7, and multiply to make 12, so they must be 3 and 4 $(3x + 4x = 7x \text{ and } 3 \times 4 = 12)$

Video 118: Factorising quadratics

Solving quadratics

Quadratic equations are written as equal to y, like so:

To find the solutions, we make them equal to 0 because the "*solutions*" are the "*x-intercepts*", where the graph crosses the x-axis. On the x-axis, the y-value would be zero (because we haven't moved up or down).

$$x^2 + 7x + 12 = 0$$

Then we can factorise to give two answers (one of the brackets must = 0).

$$(x + 3)(x + 4) = 0$$

 $x + 3 = 0 \text{ or } x + 4 = 0$
 $x = -3 \text{ or } x = -4$

If we can't factorise (sometimes the numbers don't work), we can use the **quadratic formula**:

when
$$x^2 + bx + c = 0$$
, $x =$

Plotting a Quadratic Graph

To plot a quadratic, make the expression equal to y, then make a table using different values of x. For example:

$$y = x^{2} - 4x + 5$$
If $x = 1, y = (1)^{2} - (4 \times 1) + 5$
If $x = 1, y = 2$

$$x \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 4$$

$$y \quad 5 \quad 2 \quad 1 \quad 2 \quad 5$$

$$\frac{\text{Video 264: Plotting a}}{\text{guadratic graph}}$$

$$\frac{\text{Video 265: Sketching a}}{\text{guadratic graph using key coordinates}}$$

Based on the table above, the coordinates to plot would be: (0, 5) (1, 2) (2, 1) (3, 2) (4, 5)



0

 $y = x^2 + x - 2$

Exmouth Community College

Unit 16 Foundation

Recognising a quadratic shape

All $y = x^2$ graphs will have the same symmetrical curved shape you see below, even if you can't see all of it. At any point on the line, the y-coordinate is the **square** of the x=coordinate



The upside down graph shows the equation $y = -x^2$, which is just the reflection of the positive version (the y-values have all become negative).

On the diagram, the solutions are **-1** and **2** (circled), because that's where y = 0.

Some quadratics (like the one over there) do not cross the x-axis. This means they have no "solutions", because the y value never reaches 0!