

# 12 Solve by Square Root Principle

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FOM 11

Ch 7 Day 12 Solving Quadratic Equations by the Square Root Principle (7.5)

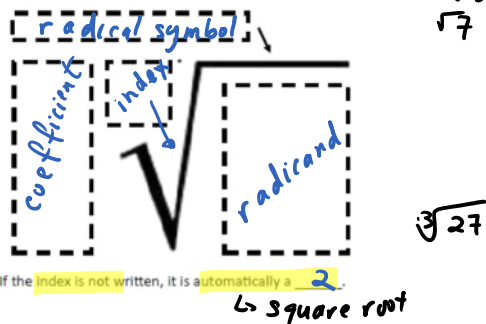
## Methods for solving a Quadratic Equation:

- Graphing ✓
- Factoring ✓
- Square Root Principle ←
- Quadratic Formula

What is a prime number?

can only be divided by 1 & itself  
(but 1 is not prime!)

## Parts of a Radical



Write the prime numbers under 50 here:

2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13,

To take the square root of a number, we need to write the prime factorization of it (i.e., break it down into prime number factors).

## FACTOR TREE METHOD

- Write the given number to begin.
- Choose two numbers which multiply to the given number. These two numbers will form your first two branches.
- If the number is prime, circle it. You will not need to do anything else to this number.
- If the number is composite, find two numbers which multiply to the number. These new numbers will form new branches.
- Continue until all branches have ended in prime numbers.

EXAMPLE: FIND THE PRIME FACTORIZATION OF 120.

Find the prime factorization of:

a) 48

$48 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3$

Factor tree for 48: 48 branches to 4 and 12. 4 branches to 2 and 2. 12 branches to 3 and 4. 4 branches to 2 and 2.

b)  $38 = 2 \times 19$

c)  $88 = 2 \times 44$

$88 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 11$

Factor tree for 88: 88 branches to 8 and 11. 8 branches to 2 and 4. 4 branches to 2 and 2.

When taking the square root of a number, write its prime factorization. "Twins" can "escape" from square root jail but only 1 twin makes it out alive!

Find the square root of each number from above:

a)  $\sqrt{48} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3}$

$= 2 \cdot 2 \sqrt{3}$

$= 4\sqrt{3}$

b)  $\sqrt{38} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 19}$

If no twins, multiply the numbers back!

$= \sqrt{38}$

c)  $\sqrt{88} = \sqrt{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 11}$

$= 2 \sqrt{2 \cdot 11}$

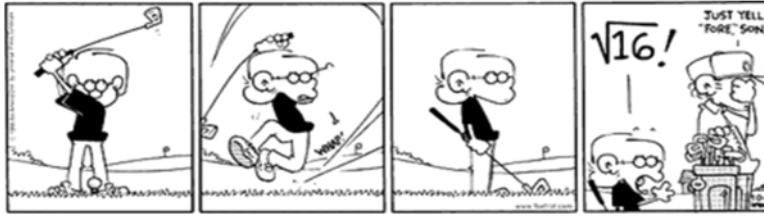
$= 2 \sqrt{22}$

$\sqrt{25} = \sqrt{5 \cdot 5} = 5$



# Solving Quadratic Equations by the Square Root Principle

$$\sqrt{16} = \sqrt{4 \cdot 4} = 4$$



The **Square Root Principle**:

If  $x^2 = k$ , then  $x = \pm\sqrt{k}$ .

$\sqrt{\text{Something}^2} = \text{something}$  means " $x = +\sqrt{k}$  or  $x = -\sqrt{k}$ "



$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{25}$$

$x = 5$  because  $5 \cdot 5 = 25$

$x = -5$  because  $(-5)(-5) = 25$

$$x = \pm 5$$

When  $b = 0$ , the quadratic equation  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$  becomes  $ax^2 + c = 0$ . If this equation has a solution, it can be solved by the SQUARE ROOT PRINCIPLE.

Use this method when  $x^2 = \#$

$$(x + \#)^2 = \#$$

**Example 1: Solved each equation by the Square Root Principle.**

a.  $3x^2 - 7 = 8$  *Isolate the square*

$$\begin{array}{r} +7 \quad +7 \\ 3x^2 - 7 = 8 \\ \hline 3x^2 = 15 \\ \hline \frac{3}{3} \sqrt{x^2} = \frac{15}{3} \\ \sqrt{x^2} = 5 \end{array}$$

*Take  $\sqrt{\quad}$  of both sides.*

$$x = \pm\sqrt{5}$$

b.  $\sqrt{(x+3)^2} = \sqrt{20}$

$$\begin{array}{r} x+3 = \pm\sqrt{20} \\ -3 \quad -3 \\ \hline x = -3 \pm \sqrt{20} \\ \hline \boxed{x = -3 + 2\sqrt{5}} \quad \boxed{x = -3 - 2\sqrt{5}} \end{array}$$

*Handwritten notes:  $20 = 4 \cdot 5$ ,  $\sqrt{20} = \sqrt{4 \cdot 5} = 2\sqrt{5}$*

c.  $2x^2 + 5 = 25$

$$\begin{array}{r} -5 \quad -5 \\ 2x^2 + 5 = 25 \\ \hline 2x^2 = 20 \\ \hline \frac{2}{2} \sqrt{x^2} = \frac{20}{2} \\ \sqrt{x^2} = 10 \\ \hline \boxed{x = \pm\sqrt{10}} \end{array}$$

d.  $\sqrt{(x-1)^2} = \sqrt{8}$

$$\begin{array}{r} x-1 = \pm\sqrt{8} \\ +1 \quad +1 \\ \hline \boxed{x = 1 \pm 2\sqrt{2}} \end{array}$$

*Handwritten notes:  $8 = 4 \cdot 2$ ,  $\sqrt{8} = \sqrt{4 \cdot 2} = 2\sqrt{2}$*

e.  $\sqrt{(x+2)^2} = \sqrt{64}$

$$\begin{array}{r} x+2 = \pm 8 \\ -2 \quad -2 \\ \hline x = -2 \pm 8 \\ \hline \boxed{x = -2 + 8} \quad \boxed{x = -2 - 8} \\ \boxed{x = 6} \quad \boxed{x = -10} \end{array}$$

*Handwritten notes: A number line showing  $-10$  and  $6$ .*

**Assignment:** Square Root Principle Worksheet.