

Lesson 5.3 Multiplying Polynomials

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Exponents and Polynomials



5.3 Multiplying Polynomials: Special Products

What You Will Learn

- Find products with monomial multipliers.

- ▶ Find products with monomial multipliers.
- ▶ Multiplying binomials using the Distributive Property and the FOIL Method.
- ▶ Multiply polynomials using a horizontal or vertical format.
- ▶ Identify and use special binomial products.

Example 1 – Finding Products with Monomial Multipliers

Find each product.

a. $(3x - 7)(-2x)$ $-6x^2 + 14x$

b. $-3x^2(5x - 1x^3 + 2)$ $15x^3 - 3x^5 + 6x^2$

c. $(-x)(2x^2 - 3x)$ $-2x^3 + 3x^2$

Multiplying Binomials

You can write the product of two binomials in just one step.

This is called the **FOIL Method**. Note that the words first, outer, inner, and last refer to the positions of the terms in the original product.

$$\begin{array}{l}
 15x^2 + 21x - 10x - 14 \\
 \hline
 15x^2 + 11x - 14
 \end{array}$$

Diagram illustrating the FOIL method for $(3x - 2)(5x + 7)$:

- F** (First): $3x \cdot 5x = 15x^2$
- O** (Outer): $3x \cdot 7 = 21x$
- I** (Inner): $-2 \cdot 5x = -10x$
- L** (Last): $-2 \cdot 7 = -14$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3x \quad -2 \\
 5x \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 15x^2 & -10x \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 +7 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 21x & -14 \\ \hline \end{array} \\
 \hline
 15x^2 + 11x - 14
 \end{array}$$

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Example 2 – Multiplying Binomials with the Distributive Property

a. $(x - 1)(x + 5)$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 x^2 + 5x - 1x - 5 \\
 \hline
 x^2 + 4x - 5
 \end{array}$$

b. $(2x + 3)(x - 2)$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 2x^2 - 4x + 3x - 6 \\
 \hline
 2x^2 - x - 6
 \end{array}$$

$$2x^2 - 4x + 3x - 6$$

$$2x^2 - x - 6$$

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Example 3 – Multiplying Binomials using the FOIL Method

a. $(x + 4)(x - 4) =$

$$x^2 - 4x + 4x - 16$$

$$x^2 - 16$$

b. $(3x + 5)(2x + 1)$

$$6x^2 + 3x + 10x + 5$$

$$6x^2 + 13x + 5$$

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Example 5 – Simplifying a Polynomial Expression

Simplify the expression and write the result in standard form.

$$(4x + 5)^2 = (4x + 5)(4x + 5)$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 (1x + 5) \cdot (4x + 5) \\
 \hline
 16x^2 + 20x + 20x + 25 \\
 \hline
 16x^2 + 40x + 25
 \end{array}$$

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Example 6 – Simplifying a Polynomial Expression

Simplify the expression and write the result in standard form.

$$(3x^2 - 2)(4x + 7) - (4x)^2$$

Solution:

$$12x^3 + 21x^2 - 8x - 14 - 16x^2$$

$$12x^3 + 5x^2 - 8x - 14$$

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Example 7 – Multiplying Polynomials (Horizontal Format)

Example 7 – Multiplying Polynomials (Horizontal Format)

a. $(x - 4)(x^2 - 4x + 2)$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 4x + 2 \\ x \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline x^3 & -4x^2 & 2x \\ \hline \end{array} \\ -4 \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline -4x^2 & 16x & -8 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$x^3 - 8x^2 + 18x - 8$$

b. $(2x^2 - 7x + 1)(4x + 3)$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8x^3 + 6x^2 - 28x^2 - 21x + 4x + 3 \\ \hline 8x^3 - 22x^2 - 17x + 3 \end{array}$$

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Example 10 – Raising a Polynomial to a Power

Use two steps to expand $(x - 3)^3$.

Solution:

$$\begin{array}{r} (x - 3)(x - 3)(x - 3) \\ \hline x^2 - 3x - 3x + 9 \\ \hline (x^2 - 6x + 9)(x - 3) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 6x + 9 \\ x \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline x^3 & -6x^2 & 9x \\ \hline \end{array} \\ -3 \cdot \begin{array}{|c|c|c|} \hline -3x^2 & 18x & -27 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$x^3 - 9x^2 + 27x - 27$$

Special Products

Special Products

Let a and b be real numbers, variables, or algebraic expressions.

Special Product

Example

Sum and Difference of Two Terms:

$$(a + b)(a - b) = a^2 - b^2$$

$$(2x - 5)(2x + 5) = 4x^2 - 25$$

Square of a Binomial:

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

$$(3x + 4)^2 = 9x^2 + 24x + 16$$

$$(a - b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2$$

$$(x - 7)^2 = x^2 - 14x + 49$$