

8.4

Solve Polynomial Equations in Factored Form

A decorative graphic consisting of several horizontal lines of varying lengths and colors (yellow and white) extending from the right side of the slide.

Factoring

- To **factor** a polynomial – write it as
a product (multiplication)
- **To Factor a Polynomial:**
- Step 1: Look for a Common monomial
 - A monomial that can be divided evenly out
of each term in the polynomial
 - Write the common monomial first and
multiply it by what is left over
after dividing (put this part in parentheses)

EX: Factor out the greatest common monomial factor.

- $12x + 42y$

✖ Divided out 6 from each

$$6(2x + 7y)$$

- $4x^4 + 24x^3$

✖ Divided out $4x^3$ from each

$$4x^3(x + 6)$$

- $15n^3 - 25n$

$$5n(3n^2 - 5)$$

* Divided out $5n$ from each

- $8a^2b - 6ab^2 + 4ab$

$$2ab(4a - 3b + 2)$$

* Divided out $2ab$ from each

Zero-Product Property

- If $ab = 0$, then $a = 0$ or $b = 0$.
- This property is used to solve an equation when one side is zero and the other side is a product.

▫ EX: $(x-3)(2x+7) = 0$

↑
product

↑
equals zero

To solve an equation by factoring:

- 1) Put the equation in standard form (descending order) set equal to zero.
- **EX:** $2x^2 + 3x - 1 = 0$
- 2) Factor - write as a product.
- 3) Set each factor equal to zero and solve.

EX: Solve the equation.

- $(2y + 5)(7y - 5) = 0$

* already factored and set equal to zero

$$\begin{array}{l} 2y + 5 = 0 \\ -5 \quad -5 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{2y}{2} = \frac{-5}{2}$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{-5}{2}}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 7y - 5 = 0 \\ +5 \quad +5 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{7y}{7} = \frac{5}{7}$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{5}{7}}$$

- $a^2 + 5a = 0$

$$a(a+5) = 0$$

$$\boxed{a=0} \quad \begin{array}{r} a + 5 = 0 \\ -5 \quad -5 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{a=-5}$$

- $-28m^2 = 8m$

$$-8m \quad -8m$$

$$-28m^2 - 8m = 0$$

$$-4m(7m+2) = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -4m = 0 \\ -4 \quad -4 \end{array}$$

$$\boxed{m=0}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 7m + 2 = 0 \\ -2 \quad -2 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{7m}{7} = \frac{-2}{7}$$

$$\boxed{m = -\frac{2}{7}}$$