

Lesson 5.2: Multiplying Polynomials

Instruction

Guided Practice 5.2

Example 1

Find the product of $(2x - 1)(x + 18)$.

1. Distribute the first polynomial over the second.

Ensure that any negative signs are included in the products where appropriate.

$$\begin{aligned}(2x - 1)(x + 18) \\ = 2x \cdot x + 2x \cdot 18 + (-1) \cdot x + (-1) \cdot 18\end{aligned}$$

2. Use properties of exponents to simplify any expressions.

x is x to the first power, or x^1 .

$$\begin{aligned}2x \cdot x \\ = 2x^1 \cdot x^1 \\ = 2x^{1+1} \\ = 2x^2\end{aligned}$$

Rewrite the expression, substituting $2x^2$ for $2x \cdot x$.

$$\begin{aligned}2x \cdot x + 2x \cdot 18 + (-1) \cdot x + (-1) \cdot 18 \\ = 2x^2 + 2x \cdot 18 + (-1) \cdot x + (-1) \cdot 18\end{aligned}$$

3. Simplify any remaining products.

The coefficient of a term can be multiplied by a number: $ax \cdot b = abx$.

$$\begin{aligned}2x^2 + 2x \cdot 18 + (-1) \cdot x + (-1) \cdot 18 \\ = 2x^2 + 36x - x - 18\end{aligned}$$

4. Combine any like terms.

$$\begin{aligned}2x^2 + 36x - x - 18 \\ = 2x^2 + 35x - 18\end{aligned}$$

The result of $(2x - 1)(x + 18)$ is $2x^2 + 35x - 18$.



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Example 2

Find the product of $(x^3 + 9x)(-x^2 + 11)$.

1. Distribute the first polynomial over the second.

Ensure that any negatives are included in the products where appropriate.

$$\begin{aligned} & (x^3 + 9x)(-x^2 + 11) \\ & = x^3 \cdot (-x^2) + x^3 \cdot 11 + 9x \cdot (-x^2) + 9x \cdot 11 \end{aligned}$$

2. Use properties of exponents to simplify like exponential expressions.

To multiply terms that have the same base (in this case, x), keep this base and add the exponents: $x^m \cdot x^n = x^{(m+n)}$.

$$\begin{aligned} & = x^3 \cdot (-x^2) + x^3 \cdot 11 + 9x \cdot (-x^2) + 9x \cdot 11 \\ & = -x^{3+2} + x^3 \cdot 11 - 9x^{1+2} + 9x \cdot 11 \\ & = -x^5 + x^3 \cdot 11 - 9x^3 + 9x \cdot 11 \end{aligned}$$

3. Simplify any remaining products.

The coefficient of a term can be multiplied by a number: $ax \cdot b = abx$.

$$\begin{aligned} & -x^5 + 11 \cdot x^3 - 9x^3 + 9x \cdot 11 \\ & = -x^5 + 11x^3 - 9x^3 + 99x \end{aligned}$$

4. Combine any like terms.

$$\begin{aligned} & -x^5 + 11x^3 - 9x^3 + 99x \\ & = -x^5 + 2x^3 + 99x \end{aligned}$$

The result of $(x^3 + 9x)(-x^2 + 11)$ is $-x^5 + 2x^3 + 99x$.



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Example 3

Find the product of $(3x + 4)(x^2 + 6x + 10)$.

1. Distribute the first polynomial over the second.

Multiply each term in the first polynomial by each term in the second polynomial.

$$\begin{aligned}(3x + 4)(x^2 + 6x + 10) \\ = 3x \cdot x^2 + 3x \cdot 6x + 3x \cdot 10 + 4 \cdot x^2 + 4 \cdot 6x + 4 \cdot 10\end{aligned}$$

2. Use properties of exponents to simplify any expressions.

$$\begin{aligned}3x \cdot x^2 + 3x \cdot 6x + 3x \cdot 10 + 4 \cdot x^2 + 4 \cdot 6x + 4 \cdot 10 \\ = 3x^3 + 18x^2 + 3x \cdot 10 + 4 \cdot x^2 + 4 \cdot 6x + 4 \cdot 10\end{aligned}$$

3. Simplify any remaining products.

$$\begin{aligned}3x^3 + 18x^2 + 3x \cdot 10 + 4 \cdot x^2 + 4 \cdot 6x + 4 \cdot 10 \\ = 3x^3 + 18x^2 + 30x + 4x^2 + 24x + 40\end{aligned}$$

4. Combine any like terms.

Only terms with the same variable raised to the same power can be combined.

The sum can first be rewritten with the exponents in descending order.

$$\begin{aligned}3x^3 + 18x^2 + 30x + 4x^2 + 24x + 40 \\ = 3x^3 + 18x^2 + 4x^2 + 30x + 24x + 40 \\ = 3x^3 + 22x^2 + 54x + 40\end{aligned}$$

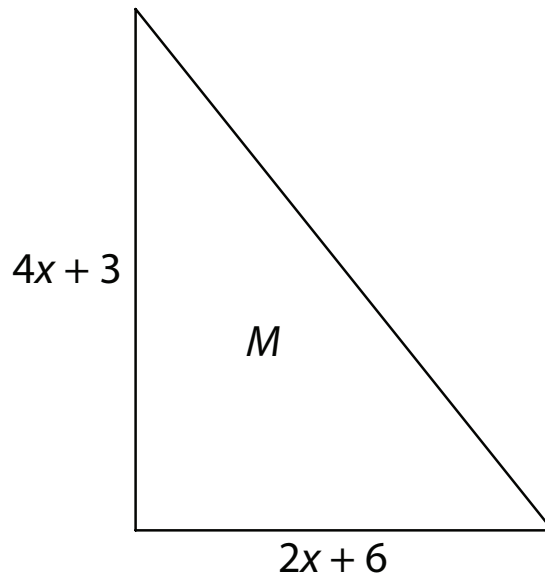
The result of $(3x + 4)(x^2 + 6x + 10)$ is $3x^3 + 22x^2 + 54x + 40$.



Instruction

Example 4

Find the area of the right triangle.



1. Identify important quantities.

The area of a triangle can be found using the formula $A = \frac{1}{2}bh$. In right triangle M , $b = (2x + 6)$ and $h = (4x + 3)$.



2. Substitute the expressions for b , base, and h , height.

$$A = \frac{1}{2}bh$$

Formula for area of a triangle

$$A = \frac{1}{2}(2x + 6)(4x + 3)$$

Substitute $(2x + 6)$ for b and $(4x + 3)$ for h .



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3. Rewrite the expression using the Distributive Property.

$$A = \frac{1}{2}(2x + 6)(4x + 3) \quad \text{Equation from the previous step}$$

$$A = \left(\frac{1}{2} \cdot 2x + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 6 \right) (4x + 3) \quad \text{Multiply each term in the first binomial by } \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$A = (x + 3)(4x + 3) \quad \text{Simplify.}$$

$$A = x \cdot 4x + 3 \cdot 4x + 3 \cdot x + 3 \cdot 3 \quad \text{Multiply each term in the first binomial by each term in the second binomial.}$$

$$A = 4x^2 + 12x + 3x + 9 \quad \text{Simplify.}$$



4. Add like terms.

$$A = 4x^2 + 12x + 3x + 9 \quad \text{Equation from the previous step}$$

$$A = 4x^2 + 15x + 9 \quad \text{Add } 12x \text{ and } 3x.$$

The area of right triangle M is $A = 4x^2 + 15x + 9$.

