

5.2F Solve Quadratic Equations Using Square Roots to Find Real Solutions

1. On a quiz, Omar solved a quadratic equation and got the answer wrong. His work is shown below. Identify his mistake and then solve the equation correctly to find the real solution.

$$12) \frac{2(x-3)^2}{2} = \frac{18}{2}$$

$$(x-3)^2 = 9$$

error
here $\rightarrow +3 +3$

$$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{12}$$

$$x = 3.464, -3.464$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{(x-3)^2} &= \sqrt{9} \\ |x-3| &= 3 \\ x-3 &= 3 \text{ or } x-3 = -3 \\ x &= 6 \text{ or } x = 0 \end{aligned}$$

#2 - 5: Verify that each of the following values are solutions to the given equation. Show ALL of your work.

2. $2x^2 + 3 = 21$; $x = 3, x = -3$

$$\begin{aligned} 2(3)^2 + 3 &= 21 & 2(-3)^2 + 3 &= 21 \\ 2(9) + 3 & & 2(9) + 3 & \\ 18 + 3 &= 21 \checkmark & 18 + 3 &= 21 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

3. $(x-5)^2 + 1 = 17$; $x = 9, x = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} (9-5)^2 + 1 &= 17 & (1-5)^2 + 1 &= 17 \\ (4)^2 + 1 & & (-4)^2 + 1 & \\ 16 + 1 &= 17 \checkmark & 16 + 1 &= 17 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

4. $x^2 + 7 = 35$; $x = 2\sqrt{7}, x = -2\sqrt{7}$

$$\begin{aligned} (2\sqrt{7})^2 + 7 &= 35 & (-2\sqrt{7})^2 + 7 &= 35 \\ 4 \cdot 7 & & 4 \cdot 7 & \\ 28 + 7 &= 35 \checkmark & 28 + 7 &= 35 \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

5. $(x+3)^2 - 5 = 70$; $x = -3 + \sqrt{5}, x = -3 - \sqrt{5}$

$$\begin{aligned} ((-3+\sqrt{5})+3)^2 - 5 &= 70 & ((-3-\sqrt{5})+3)^2 - 5 &= 70 \\ (\sqrt{5})^2 & & (-\sqrt{5})^2 & \\ 5 - 5 &\neq 70 & 5 - 5 &\neq 70 \\ (-3+\sqrt{5}) &\text{ is NOT a soln.} & (-3-\sqrt{5}) &\text{ is NOT a soln.} \end{aligned}$$

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6. Samantha solved the following problem on a test and got the right answer. Unfortunately, she doesn't know which answer is the actual solution. Explain to her which solution is correct and why.

- 5) The height " h " of a water balloon (in feet) at time " x " (in seconds) is given by the equation.

$h(x) = -16(x - 0.65)^2 + 10$. If a student throws the balloon and it hits a student who is 6 feet tall in the head, how long was the balloon in the air?

$$6 = -16(x - 0.65)^2 + 10$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} -10 & & -10 \\ \hline -4 & = & -16(x - 0.65)^2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{rcl} -4 & = & -16(x - 0.65)^2 \\ \hline -16 & & -16 \end{array}$$

$$\sqrt{0.25} = \sqrt{(x - 0.65)^2}$$

$$0.5 = x - 0.65$$

$$-0.5 = x - 0.65$$

$$+0.65 \quad +0.65$$

$$+0.65 \quad +0.65$$

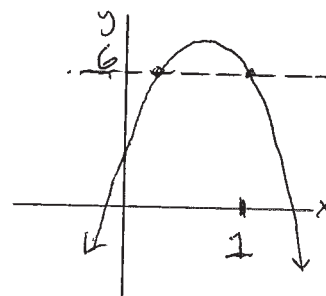
$$x = 1.15 \text{ seconds} \quad \text{or} \quad x = 0.15 \text{ seconds}$$

Not sure which is

right???

HELP!

Both answers are correct. The balloon could have hit a 6 ft tall student on the way up after 0.15 seconds, or it could have hit the student on its descending path after 1.15 seconds. See graph at right.



#7 – 10: Solve each equation for real solutions and simplify your answers. Verify your solutions!

7. $x^2 + 3 = 21$
 $\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{18}$
 $|x| = \sqrt{18}$

$x = \pm 3\sqrt{2}$

$$\begin{array}{l} (3\sqrt{2})^2 + 3 \\ 9 \cdot 2 + 3 = 21 \checkmark \\ (-3\sqrt{2})^2 + 3 \\ 9 \cdot 2 + 3 = 21 \checkmark \end{array}$$

8. $\sqrt{(x-1)^2} = \sqrt{32}$
 $|x-1| = \sqrt{16 \cdot 2}$

$$x-1 = \pm 4\sqrt{2}$$

$$x = 1 \pm 4\sqrt{2}$$

✓ Verify your solution(s):

$$\begin{array}{l} \checkmark \text{ Verify your solution(s):} \\ ((1+4\sqrt{2})-1)^2 = 32 \\ (4\sqrt{2})^2 = 32 \\ 16 \cdot 2 = 32 \checkmark \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} ((1-4\sqrt{2})-1)^2 = 32 \\ (-4\sqrt{2})^2 = 32 \\ 16 \cdot 2 = 32 \checkmark \end{array}$$

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#7 – 10 (continued): Solve each equation for real solutions and simplify your answers. Verify your solutions!

9. $2x^2 - 8 = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} 2x^2 &= 8 \\ \sqrt{x^2} &= \sqrt{4} \\ |x| &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \pm 2$$

10. $5(x-1)^2 - 3 = 42$

$$\begin{aligned} 5(x-1)^2 &= 45 \\ \sqrt{(x-1)^2} &= \sqrt{9} \\ |x-1| &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} x-1 = 3 & \text{or} & x-1 = -3 \\ +1 & & +1 \end{array}$$

$$x = 4 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -2$$

✓ Verify your solution(s):

$$\begin{aligned} 2(2)^2 - 8 &= 0 \\ 2 \cdot 4 - 8 &= 0 \quad \checkmark \\ 2(-2)^2 - 8 &= 0 \\ 2(4) - 8 &= 0 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

✓ Verify your solution(s):

$$\begin{aligned} 5(4-1)^2 - 3 &= 42 \\ 5(3)^2 - 3 &= 42 \quad \checkmark \\ 5(-2-1)^2 - 3 &= 42 \\ 5(-3)^2 - 3 &= 42 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

#11 – 14: Find the roots of each function and simplify your answers. Verify your solutions!

11. $f(x) = x^2 - 75$

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 - 75 &= 0 \\ \sqrt{x^2} &= \sqrt{75} \\ |x| &= \sqrt{25 \cdot 3} \end{aligned}$$

$$x = \pm 5\sqrt{3}$$

12. $f(x) = (x+2)^2$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{(x+2)^2} &= \sqrt{0} \\ |x+2| &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$x+2 = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{cc} -2 & -2 \end{array}$$

$$x = -2$$

✓ Verify your solution(s):

$$\begin{aligned} (5\sqrt{3})^2 - 75 &= 0 \\ 25 \cdot 3 - 75 &= 0 \quad \checkmark \\ (-5\sqrt{3})^2 &= 0 \\ 25 \cdot 3 - 75 &= 0 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

✓ Verify your solution(s):

$$\begin{aligned} (-2+2)^2 &= 0 \\ 0^2 &= 0 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

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#11 – 14 (continued): Find the roots of each function and simplify your answers. Verify your solutions!

13. $f(x) = 2(x-1)^2 - 18$

$$2(x-1)^2 - 18 = 0$$

$$2(x-1)^2 = 18$$

$$(x-1)^2 = 9$$

$$\sqrt{(x-1)^2} = \sqrt{9}$$

$$|x-1| = 3$$

$$x-1 = 3 \text{ or } x-1 = -3$$

$$x = 4 \text{ or } x = -2$$

✓ Verify your solution(s):

$$2(4-1)^2 - 18$$

$$2(3)^2$$

$$2 \cdot 9 - 18 = 0 \checkmark$$

$$2(-2-1)^2 - 18$$

$$2(-3)^2$$

$$2 \cdot 9 - 18 = 0 \checkmark$$

14. $f(x) = 3x^2 - 24$

$$3x^2 - 24 = 0$$

$$3x^2 = 24$$

$$\sqrt{3x^2} = \sqrt{24}$$

$$|x| = 2\sqrt{2}$$

$$x = \pm 2\sqrt{2}$$

✓ Verify your solution(s):

$$3(2\sqrt{2})^2 - 24$$

$$3(4 \cdot 2) - 24$$

$$24 - 24 = 0 \checkmark$$

$$3(-2\sqrt{2})^2 - 24$$

$$3(4 \cdot 2) - 24$$

$$24 - 24 = 0 \checkmark$$

15. The height of a ball in the air, h , at time t can be modeled by the equation

$$h(t) = -16(t-1)^2 + 32.$$

How long does it take for the ball to reach the ground? (round answers to the nearest hundredth)

$$-16(t-1)^2 + 32 = 0$$

$$-16(t-1)^2 = -32$$

$$\sqrt{(t-1)^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

$$|t-1| = \sqrt{2}$$

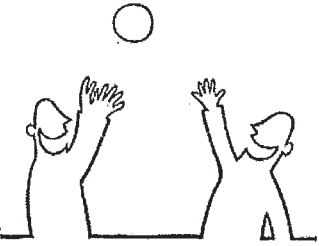
$$t-1 = \sqrt{2} \text{ or } t-1 = -\sqrt{2}$$

$$t = 1 + \sqrt{2}$$

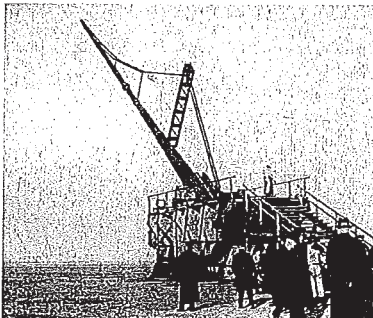
$$t \approx 2.41 \text{ sec}$$

$$t = 1 - \sqrt{2}$$

$$t \approx -0.41 \text{ extraneous}$$



16. Big Bertha, a cannon used in WW1, could fire shells incredibly long distances. The path of a shell could be modeled by $y = -0.0196(x-25)^2 + 12$ where x was the horizontal distance traveled (in miles), and y was the height (in miles). How far could Big Bertha fire a shell? (round answers to the nearest mile)



Big Bertha (Paris Gun), courtesy
<http://www.militaryimages.net>

$$-0.0196(x-25)^2 + 12 = 0$$

$$-0.0196(x-25)^2 = -12$$

$$\sqrt{(x-25)^2} = \sqrt{612.245}$$

$$|x-25| = 24.74$$

$$x-25 = 24.74 \text{ or } x-25 = -24.74$$

$$+25 \quad 25$$

$$x = 49.74$$

$$x \approx 49.74$$

$$x-25 = -24.74$$

$$+25 \quad 25$$

$$x = 0.26 \approx 0 \text{ miles}$$

Section 5.2F

extraneous