

# 5.2M Solving Quadratic Equations Using the Quadratic Formula to Find Real or Complex Solutions

#1 – 3: Review: Simplify the following radicals.

1.  $\sqrt{-12}$   
 $\sqrt{-1 \cdot 4 \cdot 3}$   
 $2i\sqrt{3}$

2.  $\sqrt{24}$   
 $\sqrt{4 \cdot 6}$   
 $2\sqrt{6}$

3.  $\sqrt{-16}$   
 $\sqrt{-1 \cdot 16}$   
 $4i$

#4-9: The following solutions were found using the quadratic formula but are not simplified all the way.

Put the solutions in simplest form. No decimals allowed!

4.  $x = \frac{-2 \pm 4}{2}$   
 $\frac{-6}{2}$   
 $x = 1 \text{ or } x = -3$

5.  $x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{0}}{4}$   
 $x = -\frac{3}{2}$

6.  $x = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2}$   
 $x = \frac{3 \pm 2i}{2}$

7.  $x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-11}}{2(2)}$   
 $x = \frac{-6 \pm i\sqrt{11}}{4}$

8.  $x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{-20}}{2(1)}$   
 $x = -1 \pm i\sqrt{5}$

9.  $x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{64}}{2(1)}$   
 $x = 3 \text{ or } x = -5$

10. Carter solved the following quadratic equation using the quadratic formula – his work is shown below. However, he did not simplify his answer correctly. Find his mistake(s) and then simplify the solution correctly.

Error Line 6  
 $x = \frac{-6 \pm 2i}{2} = -3 \pm i$   
 $x = -3 \pm i$

Line 1	$x^2 + 6x + 10 = 0$
Line 2	$a = 1, b = 6, c = 10$
Line 3	$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{(6)^2 - 4(1)(10)}}{2(1)}$
Line 4	$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2}$
Line 5	$x = \frac{-6 \pm 2i}{2}$
Line 6	$x = -3 \pm 2i$

# 5.2M Solving Quadratic Equations Using the Quadratic Formula to Find Real or Complex Solutions

#11 – 13: Solve using the quadratic formula. Be sure to simplify your answer, keeping your answers exact (no decimals approximations). Remember to show ALL work.

11.  $x^2 + 6x = -2$

$$x^2 + 6x + 2 = 0$$

$$a = 1 \quad b = 6 \quad c = 2$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{(6)^2 - 4(1)(2)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{28}}{2} = \frac{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{7}}{2}$$

$$x = -3 \pm \sqrt{7}$$

12.  $2x^2 - 8x = -8$

$$2x^2 - 8x + 8 = 0$$

$$2(x^2 - 4x + 4) = 0$$

$$x^2 - 4x + 4 = 0$$

$$a = 1 \quad b = -4 \quad c = 4$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(4)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{0}}{2}$$

$$x = 2$$

13.  $5x^2 - 13x + 9 = 0$

$$a = 5 \quad b = -13 \quad c = 9$$

$$x = \frac{13 \pm \sqrt{(-13)^2 - 4(5)(9)}}{2(5)}$$

$$x = \frac{13 \pm \sqrt{-11}}{2(5)}$$

$$x = \frac{13 \pm 2\sqrt{11}}{10}$$

14. The path of an object thrown straight up in the air with an initial velocity of 40 feet per second and from an initial height of 4 feet can be modeled by the equation  $h(t) = -16t^2 + 40t + 4$ , where  $h$  is the height of the object at time  $t$ .

- a) How long does the object remain in the air before landing (height = 0)? Put your answer in decimal form, rounded to the nearest tenth of a second.

$$a = -16 \quad b = 40 \quad c = 4$$

$$x = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{(40)^2 - 4(-16)(4)}}{2(-16)}$$

$$x = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{1856}}{2(-16)} = \frac{-40 \pm 43.08}{-32} \begin{matrix} -0.10 \text{ extraneous} \\ (2.6 \text{ sec}) \end{matrix}$$

- b) From part a) of this problem, the quadratic formula gives you two answers. How did you know which answer to choose? Since  $t = 0$  means time when object is initially thrown, positive time means time after the throw was started. Negative time implies time before the object was thrown, which doesn't make sense here.

- c) How long is the object in the air when it reaches a height of 25 feet?

$$-16t^2 + 40t + 4 = 25$$

$$-16t^2 + 40t - 21 = 0$$

$$a = -16 \quad b = 40 \quad c = -21$$

$$t = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{(40)^2 - 4(-16)(-21)}}{2(-16)}$$

$$t = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{256}}{-32}$$

$$t = \frac{-40 \pm 16}{-32} \begin{matrix} 0.75 \text{ sec} \\ 1.75 \text{ sec} \end{matrix}$$

After 0.75 secs and again at 1.75 secs

Section 5.2M