

Lesson 5.4: GCF and Factor by Grouping

By the end of the lesson, we will be able to:

- ~ Factor out the **G**reatest **C**ommon **F**actor
- ~ Factor by **G**rouping



Snowflake Basket

Remember the Distributive Property?

$$a(x + y) = ax + ay$$

Well, today, we are going to
"UN-distribute".

It's called FACTORING.

$$ax + ay = a(x + y)$$

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Factors: Factors are numbers/polynomials that are multiplied together to get the whole.

Example:

$$3(2) = 6 \quad \sim \text{ 3 and 2 are factors of 6 } \sim$$

$$(3x + 1)(x - 5) = 3x^2 - 14x - 5$$

$\sim (3x + 1)$ and $(x - 5)$ are factors of the right side polynomial. \sim

Lesson 5.4: GCF and Factor by Grouping

We are going to look for the **Greatest Common Factor (GCF)** of polynomials.

Let's start off with numbers.

~What is the *GCF* of 6 and 15?

~What is the *GCF* of 48 and 72?

* **NOTE:** we can break numbers up into Prime Factorization to help us find the *GCF*.

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Find the GCF:

1. $4x, 12$

2. $6x^3, 12x^2, 15x$

3. $4x^3y^4, 8x^2y^3, 12xy^2$

Factoring

Factor out the GCF:

1. $7x^2 - 14x$

2. $6y^3 - 14y^2 + 10y$

3. $2m^4n^2 + 8m^3n^4 - 6m^2n^5$

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Factor out the GCF: (If the coefficient of the highest degree term is negative, we often want to factor out the negative as part of the GCF.)

5. $-8z + 16$

6. $-2b^3 + 10b^2 + 8b$

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*Factor out the GCF: Sometimes the GCF is a Binomial.
Factor the Binomial out.*

7. $4x(x - 3) + 5(x - 3)$

8. $(c + 4)(c - 1) + (5c - 2)(c - 1)$

Factor by Grouping *see pg. 393*

Step 1: Group the terms with common factors.

Sometimes it will be necessary to rearrange the terms.

Step 2: In each grouping, factor out the common factor.

Step 3: Factor out the common factor that remains (usually a Binomial).

Step 4: Check your answer.

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Factor by Grouping

Examples:

1. $x^3 + 3x^2 + 2x + 6$

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Factor by Grouping

Examples:

2. $6x^2 + 9x - 10x - 15$

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- ~ Factor by **G**rouping

CAN YOU?



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Homework:

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41, 45, 49, 51, 55, 59**

(14 problems)