

# 1.5 Equations

solutions = roots = x-intercepts = zeros

Linear Equation: first degree equation

Example 1: Solve.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 7x - 4 = 3x + 8 \\
 \underline{-3x \quad -3x} \\
 4x - 4 = 8 \\
 \quad \quad \quad \underline{+4 \quad +4} \\
 4x = 12 \\
 \underline{\quad \quad \quad 4} \\
 x = 3
 \end{array}$$

Literal Equation: equation with several variables

Example 2:  
Solve for M.

$$F = \frac{G \cdot mM}{r^2} \cdot r^2$$

$$\frac{Fr^2}{Gm} = \frac{GmM}{Gm}$$

$$\frac{Fr^2}{Gm} = M$$

Example 3:  
Solve for w.

$$A = 2lw + 2wh + 2lh$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 A - 2lh \\
 \underline{-2lh \quad -2lh} \\
 A - 2lh = 2lw + 2wh \\
 A - 2lh = w(2l + 2h) \\
 \underline{\quad \quad \quad 2l + 2h}
 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{A - 2lh}{2l + 2h} = w$$

## Quadratic Equation: 2nd degree equations

**Example 4:**  
Solve by factoring.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 + 5x = 24 \\
 \underline{-24 \quad -24} \\
 x^2 + 5x - 24 = 0 \\
 (x+8)(x-3) = 0 \\
 x+8=0 \quad x-3=0 \\
 \boxed{x=-8} \quad \boxed{x=3}
 \end{array}$$

**Example 5:**  
Solve.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 = 25 \\
 \underline{-25 \quad -25} \\
 x^2 - 25 = 0 \\
 (x-5)(x+5) = 0 \\
 x-5=0 \quad x+5=0 \\
 \boxed{x=5} \quad \boxed{x=-5}
 \end{array}$$

OR

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{25} \\
 \boxed{x = \pm 5}
 \end{array}$$

$ax^2 + bx + c$   
**Example 6:**  
Solve by completing the square.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x^2 - 8x + 13 = 0 \\
 \underline{-13 \quad -13} \\
 x^2 - 8x = -13 \\
 \text{Find } \frac{1}{2} \text{ of } b. \quad \frac{1}{2}(-8) = -4 \\
 \text{Square answer. } (-4)^2 = 16 \\
 \text{Add answer to each side.} \\
 \text{perf. sq. trinomial} \\
 x^2 - 8x + 16 = -13 + 16 \\
 \sqrt{(x-4)^2} = \sqrt{3} \\
 x-4 = \pm\sqrt{3} \\
 \underline{+4 \quad +4} \\
 \boxed{x = 4 \pm \sqrt{3}}
 \end{array}$$

**Example 7:**  
Solve by completing the square.

$$\begin{array}{r}
 3x^2 - 12x + 6 = 0 \\
 \underline{-6 \quad -6} \\
 3x^2 - 12x = -6 \\
 3(x^2 - 4x) = -6 \\
 \frac{1}{2}(-4) = -2 \\
 (-2)^2 = 4 \\
 3(x^2 - 4x + 4) = -6 + 12 \\
 3(x-2)^2 = \frac{6}{3} \\
 \sqrt{(x-2)^2} = \sqrt{2} \\
 x-2 = \pm\sqrt{2} \\
 \underline{+2 \quad +2} \\
 \boxed{x = 2 \pm \sqrt{2}}
 \end{array}$$

Quadratic Formula:  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

Example 8: Solve using the quadratic formula.

$$a=3 \quad b=-6 \quad c=-1$$

$$3x^2 - 6x - 1 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{(-6)^2 - 4(3)(-1)}}{2(3)}$$

$$x = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36 + 12}}{6}$$

$$x = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{48}}{6}$$

$$x = \frac{6 \pm 4\sqrt{3}}{6}$$

$$x = \frac{2(3 \pm 2\sqrt{3})}{6 \div 2} \div 2 \quad x = \frac{6}{6} \pm \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{6}$$

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

$$x = 1 \pm \frac{2\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

Example 9:

Solve using the quadratic formula.

$$a=4 \quad b=12 \quad c=9$$

$$4x^2 + 12x + 9 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{(12)^2 - 4(4)(9)}}{2(4)}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm \sqrt{144 - 144}}{8}$$

$$x = \frac{-12 \pm 0}{8}$$

$$x = -\frac{3}{2}$$

Example 10:

Solve using the quadratic formula.

$$x^2 + 2x = -2$$

$$\frac{\quad +2 \quad +2}{\quad \quad \quad}$$

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

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

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 8}}{2}$$

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

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm 2i}{2} = \frac{2(-1 \pm i)}{2}$$

$$x = -1 \pm i$$

**Discriminant:** a real number that tells how many and what type of solutions a quadratic equation has

1. If  $D > 0$ , then 2 real solutions.
2. If  $D = 0$ , then 1 real solution.
3. If  $D < 0$ , then no real solutions (2 complex).

### Example 11:

Determine how many real solutions each equation has.

a)  $x^2 + 4x - 1 = 0$   
 $b^2 - 4ac = (4)^2 - 4(1)(-1)$   
 $= 16 + 4$   
 $= 20$   
 2 real solutions

b)  $4x^2 - 12x = -9$   
 $4x^2 - 12x + 9 = 0$   
 $b^2 - 4ac = (-12)^2 - 4(4)(9)$   
 $= 144 - 144$   
 $= 0$   
 1 real solution

c)  $\frac{1}{3}x^2 - 2x + 4 = 0$   
 $b^2 - 4ac = (-2)^2 - 4(\frac{1}{3})(4)$   
 $= 4 - \frac{16}{3}$   
 $= \frac{12}{3} - \frac{16}{3}$   
 $= -\frac{4}{3}$   
 no real solutions

### Example 12:



An object is thrown or fired straight upward at an initial speed of  $v_0$  ft/s and will reach a height of  $h$  feet after  $t$  seconds, where  $h$  and  $t$  are related by the formula  $h = -16t^2 + v_0t$ . Suppose that a bullet is shot straight upward with an initial speed of 800 ft/s.

$$h = -16t^2 + 800t$$

a) When does the bullet fall back to ground level?  $h=0$

$$0 = -16t^2 + 800t$$

$$0 = -16t(t - 50)$$

leg. of problem

$$\frac{-16t = 0}{-16 \quad -16} \rightarrow t = 0$$

$$t - 50 = 0$$

$$t = 50 \text{ sec}$$

b) When does it reach a height of 6400 ft?  $h$

$$6400 = -16t^2 + 800t$$

$$16t^2 - 800t + 6400 = 0$$

$$16(t^2 - 50t + 400) = 0$$

$$16(t - 10)(t - 40) = 0$$

$$16 \neq 0 \quad t - 10 = 0 \quad t - 40 = 0$$

$$t = 10 \text{ sec} \quad t = 40 \text{ sec}$$

Example 12 (continued):  $1 \text{ mile} = 5280 \text{ ft}$   
 $2 \text{ miles} = 10560 \text{ ft}$

c) When does it reach a height of 2 miles?

$$10560 = -16t^2 + 800t$$

$$16t^2 - 800t + 10560 = 0$$

$$16(t^2 - 50t + 660) = 0$$

d) How high is the highest point the bullet reaches?