

7.1 Multiplying Binomials

A binomial has two terms like $(x + 3)$ or $(6x - 5)$

There are a few ways to multiply binomials.

- 1) Break the first bracket into two terms, then multiply.
- 2) Use the acronym F.O.I.L. as a method to multiply.
- 3) Use algebra tiles

Mar 14-2:20 PM

Expand and simplify.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(x + 3)(x + 4) \\
 &x(x + 4) + 3(x + 4) \\
 &x^2 + 4x + 3x + 16 \\
 &\quad \vee \\
 &x^2 + 7x + 16
 \end{aligned}$$

Brackets together mean to multiply

Split the first bracket, then multiply by the terms in the second bracket.

Group like terms $4x$ and $3x$

Apr 18-3:26 PM

Multiplying Binomials Using FOIL

$$(2x + 3)(3x + 5)$$

First Outside Inside Last

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 \uparrow F & \uparrow O & \uparrow I & \uparrow L \\
 6x^2 & + 10x & + 9x & + 15
 \end{array}$$



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Expand and Simplify

$$(x + 6)(x - 4)$$

1) Breaking the first bracket

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(x + 6)(x - 4) \\
 &x(x - 4) + 6(x - 4) \\
 &x^2 - 4x + 6x - 24 \\
 &\quad \vee \\
 &x^2 + 2x - 24
 \end{aligned}$$

2) Using FOIL

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \text{F} \quad \text{---} \text{---} \\
 (x + 6)(x - 4) \\
 \text{F} \quad x \cdot x = x^2 \\
 \text{O} \quad x \cdot -4 = -4x \\
 \text{I} \quad +6 \cdot x = +6x \\
 \text{L} \quad +6 \cdot -4 = -24 \\
 \\
 x^2 - 4x + 6x - 24 \\
 x^2 + 2x - 24
 \end{array}$$

Mar 14-2:22 PM