

## Quadratics, Completing the Square

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

### Algorithm

1. Make sure  $a = 1$
2. Put variables on one side, number on the other side
3. Take  $\frac{1}{2}$  linear term and square
4. Add that result to both sides
5. Factor (use  $\frac{1}{2}$  linear term)
6. Solve resulting equation using  $x^2 = n$  Method

### Example

Solve by completing the square.  $x^2 - 6x + 2 = 0$

1.  $a = 1$
2.  $x^2 - 6x = -2$
3.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of 6 is 3, square is 9
4.  $x^2 - 6x + 9 = -2 + 9$
5.  $(x - 3)^2 = 7$   
 $x - 3 = \pm\sqrt{7}$   
 $x = \pm\sqrt{7} + 3$

**\*Hint- If the coefficient of the quadratic term is not 1 or if b is an odd number, completing the square is typically not the best option to solve an equation.**

Solve the following equations by completing the square.

1.  $x^2 + 10x - 11 = 0$

2.  $x^2 - 4x + 12 = 0$

3.  $x^2 + 2x - 12 = 0$

4.  $x^2 + 2x + 8 = 0$

5.  $x^2 - 6x + 4 = 0$

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

7.  $x^2 + 10x + 21 = 0$

8.  $x^2 - 14x + 46 = 0$

9.  $2x^2 + 8x - 12 = 0$

10.  $2x^2 - 3x - 5 = 0$

11.  $x^2 - 2x - 5 = 3$

12.  $x^2 - 10x - 20 = 0$