

Math -2 Unit # 3 quadratic equation

How to solve quadratic equation

There are many ways to solve quadratic equations, and in this unit we will study four methods:

A- Method #1 solving quadratic equation by Factoring.

Follow the following steps:

- 1- Write the quadratic equation in Standard form $aX^2 + bX + C = 0$.
- 2- Open two () () that equal zero, then factor a X^2 to a X and X or a_1X and a_2X where a_1X times $a_2X = aX^2$.
- 3- Factor C to C_1 and C_2 where C_1 times $C_2 = C$, but be careful for choosing C_1 and C_2 because when you add C_1 and C_2 the result must be equal to b (the factor of X).
 $aX^2 + bX + C = 0$.
 $(aX +/- C_1)(X +/- C_2) = 0$ plus or minus depends on the sign of b and c

B- Method #2 solving quadratic equation by completing the square. (If a=1)

This method is use when it is hard to factor C.

Follow the following steps:

- 1- Move C to the other side of equal sign (=) and flip it sign, so $-C$ become $+C$ and $+C$ become $-C$.
- 2- Find your square value $\square = (b/2)^2$ and add it to both sides of equation.
- 3- Factor the equation using method # 1 above (Factoring)
 $aX^2 + bX + C = 0$.
 $aX^2 + bX = -C$
 $aX^2 + bX + \underline{(b/2)^2} = -C + \underline{(b/2)^2}$ then Factor.

C-Method #3 using quadratic formula.

This method can solve any quadratic equation. And the formula is $X = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

D- Method # 4 using graphs.

- 1-With this method you should construct a table and assign some values for X around the origin (0,0) so $X = 0, -1, -2, 2, 4$ etc. and substitute X value in the equation, then find Y values
- 2- graph X and Y you should have parabola shape, then find zeros (X-intercepts) from the graph.
- 3-If the vertex Max or min or above or below X- axis, that means you have two real solutions. If the vertex is the origin (0, 0), that means you have one real solution. IF the vertex is (0, +Y) up or (0, -Y) down, that means you have two non-real solutions.

