

Factor by Grouping:Example 1: Factor $x^3 + 3x^2 - 4x - 12$

Step 1: Write the polynomial in standard form.

Step 2: Group terms.

Step 3: Use GCF to factor common monomials from each group.

Step 4: Factor out the common binomial.

Step 5: Factor using DOTS if possible.

$$\begin{aligned} & \underline{x^3 + 3x^2} - \underline{4x - 12} \\ & \underline{x^2(x+3)} - \underline{4(x+3)} \\ & (x+3)(x^2 - 4) \end{aligned}$$

$$= (x+3)(x+2)(x-2)$$

2. Factor $x^3 - 2x^2 - 9x + 18$

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3. Factor $2x^3 + x^2 + 8x + 4$

$$\begin{aligned} & = x^2(2x+1) + 4(2x+1) \\ & = (2x+1)(x^2 + 4) \end{aligned}$$

Sum is done.

No DOTS
 $= x^2 + 4x + 4$

Factor Completely:

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \quad & 36x^2 - 4y^2 \\ & = 4(9x^2 - y^2) \\ & = 4(3x - y)(3x + y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. \quad & 12x^2 - 27 \\ & = 3(4x^2 - 9) \\ & = 3(2x + 3)(2x - 3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3. \quad & 2y^4 + 2y^3 + 4y^2 + 4y \\ & \quad \text{GCF} \\ & = 2y(y^3 + y^2 + 2y + 2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 4. \quad & 81 - m^4 \\ & = (9 - m^2)(9 + m^2) \\ & = (3 - m)(3 + m)(9 + m^2) \end{aligned}$$

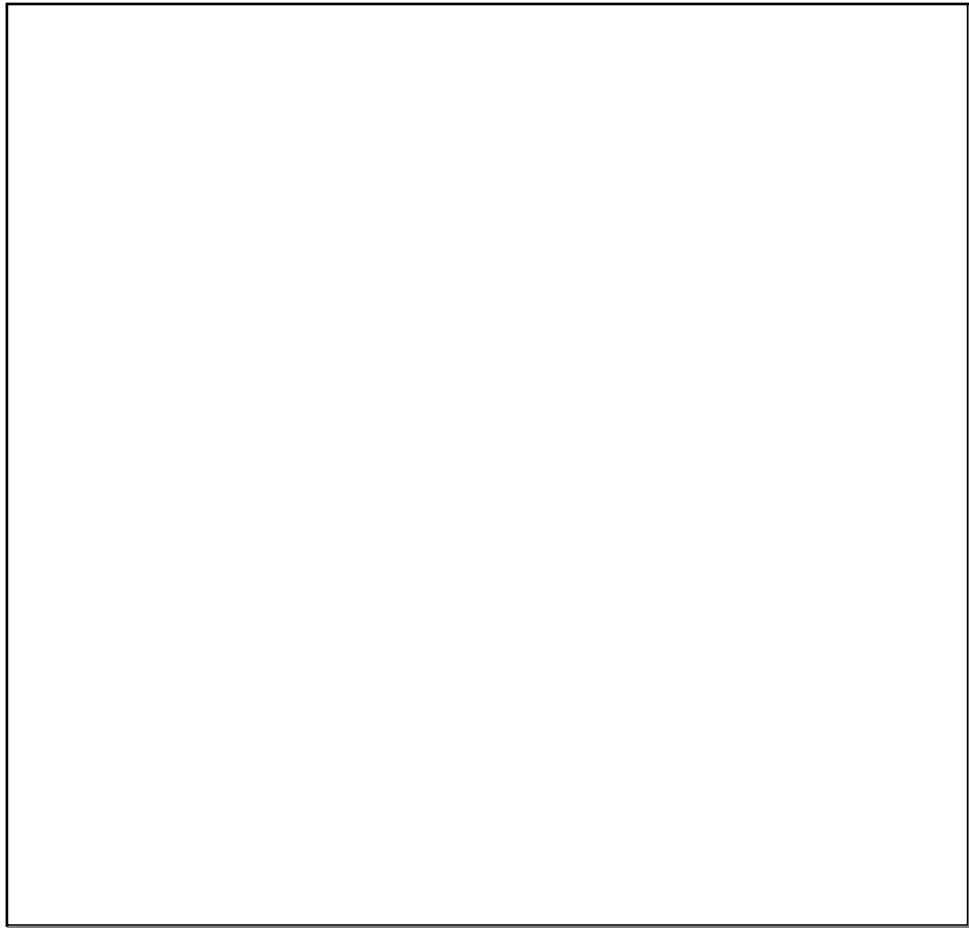
YouTube video on RSA encryption (about 10 minutes)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M7kEpw1tn50>

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