

Applications of Quadratic Equations

1. If five is added to three times the square of a number, the result is sixteen times the number. Find all such numbers.

Let x = the unknown number

$$\begin{aligned} 3x^2 + 5 &= 16x \\ 3x^2 - 16x + 5 &= 0 \\ (3x - 1)(x - 5) &= 0 \\ 3x - 1 = 0 & \quad | \quad x - 5 = 0 \\ 3x = 1 & \quad | \quad x = 5 \\ x = \frac{1}{3} & \end{aligned}$$

The numbers are $\frac{1}{3}$ and 5.

2. The sum of the squares of two consecutive odd integers is nineteen more than the product of the integers. Find all such integers.

1st odd integer: x

2nd odd integer: $x+2$

$x=3$ 1st odd integer: $x=3$
2nd odd integer: $x+2$
 $= 3+2=5$

So one integer pair is 3, 5.

$x=-5$ 1st odd integer: $x=-5$
2nd odd integer: $x+2$
 $= -5+2$
 $= -3$

So another pair of integers is -5, -3.

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + (x+2)^2 &= x(x+2) + 19 \\ x^2 + (x+2)(x+2) &= x^2 + 2x + 19 \\ x^2 + x^2 + 2x + 2x + 4 &= x^2 + 2x + 19 \\ x^2 + x^2 + 4x + 4 &= x^2 + 2x + 19 \\ 2x^2 + 4x + 4 &= x^2 + 2x + 19 \\ -x^2 - 2x - 15 &= 0 \\ x^2 + 2x - 15 &= 0 \\ (x-3)(x+5) &= 0 \\ x-3=0 & \quad | \quad x+5=0 \\ x=3 & \quad | \quad x=-5 \end{aligned}$$

3. The length of a rectangular garden is 2 ft more than the width. If the area is 120 ft², what are the dimensions of the garden?

length: $x+2$
width: x

Area = (length)(width)

$$120 = (x+2)(x)$$

$$x(x+2) = 120$$

$$x^2 + 2x = 120$$

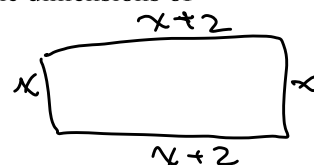
$$x^2 + 2x - 120 = 0$$

$$(x+12)(x-10) = 0$$

$$x+12=0 \quad | \quad x-10=0$$

$$x=-12 \quad | \quad x=10$$

-12 does not make sense for width. Discard.



width: $x=10$

length: $x+2$

$$x=10 \Rightarrow 10+2 = 12$$

The width is 10 ft and the length is 12 ft.

6.8 cont'd

4. The base of a triangle is twice the height. If the area is 36 in^2 , find the base and the height.

base: $2x$
height: x

$$\text{Area of Triangle} = \frac{1}{2} (\text{base}) (\text{height})$$

$$36 = \frac{1}{2} (2x) (x)$$

$$36 = \frac{2x^2}{2}$$

$$36 = x^2$$

$$0 = x^2 - 36$$

$$0 = (x+6)(x-6)$$

$$\begin{array}{l|l} x+6=0 & x-6=0 \\ x=-6 & x=6 \\ \text{Discard.} & \text{only} \\ \text{Negative} & \text{solution} \\ \text{does not} & \text{that} \\ \text{make sense} & \text{work} \\ \text{for a dimension} & \end{array}$$

$x=6$
height: $x=6 \text{ in}$

base: $2x$
 $x=6 \Rightarrow 2(6 \text{ in}) = 12 \text{ in}$

The base is 6 in
and the height is 12 in .

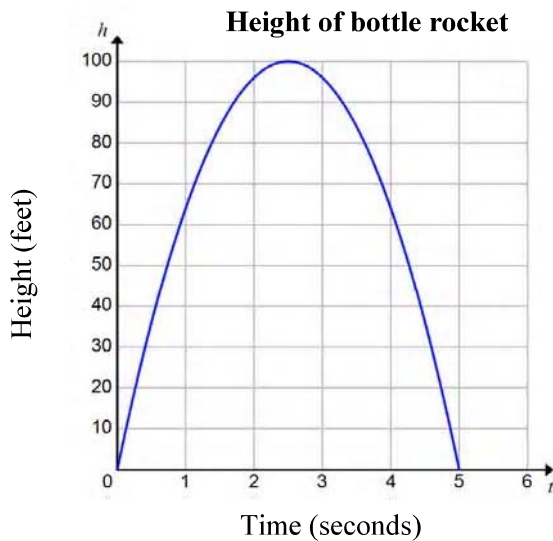
5. A bottle rocket is shot straight up into the air from the ground with an initial speed of 80 ft/sec . The height of the bottle rocket (in feet) is given by the equation

$$h = -16t^2 + 80t$$

where t is the time in seconds after the bottle rocket is shot into the air ($t \geq 0$).

Find the time(s) when the bottle rocket is at ground level.

skip?



Example 4 $\frac{1}{2}$: The height of a triangle is 4 ft less than three times its base. The area is 42 ft². Find the base and height.

base: x

height: $3x - 4$

height $\xrightarrow[\text{to}]{\text{compare}}$ base

$$\text{Area of triangle} = \frac{1}{2} (\text{base})(\text{height})$$

$$42 = \frac{1}{2} (x)(3x - 4)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} x (3x - 4) = 42$$

$$\frac{1}{2} x (3x) + \frac{1}{2} x (-4) = 42$$

$$\frac{3x^2}{2} - \frac{4x}{2} = 42$$

$$\cancel{\frac{3x^2}{2}} - \cancel{(2)} 2x = 42 \quad (2)$$

$$3x^2 - 4x = 84$$

$$3x^2 - 4x - 84 = 0$$

$$(3x + 14)(x - 6) = 0$$

$$3x + 14 = 0 \quad | \quad x - 6 = 0$$

$$3x = -14 \quad | \quad x = 6$$

$$x = -\frac{14}{3} \quad | \quad \text{only value for } x \text{ that works.}$$

x is card

$3x^2$	84
$\wedge$	$\wedge$
$x \cdot 3x$	$1 \cdot 84$
	$2 \cdot 42$
	$3 \cdot 28$
	$4 \cdot 21$
	$6 \cdot 14$
	$7 \cdot 12$

$$x = 6 \quad | \quad \text{base: } x = 6$$

$$\text{height: } 3x - 4$$

$$x = 6 \Rightarrow = 3(6) - 4$$

$$= 18 - 4$$

$$= 14$$

The base is 6 ft and the height is 14 ft.

Check it!

(against the words of the original problem)

multiply both sides by 2 to clear the fractions.

check:

$$(3x + 14)(x - 6) = 3x^2 - 18x + 14x - 84 = 3x^2 - 4x - 84 \checkmark$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ 14 \\ 6 \\ \hline 84 \end{array}$$

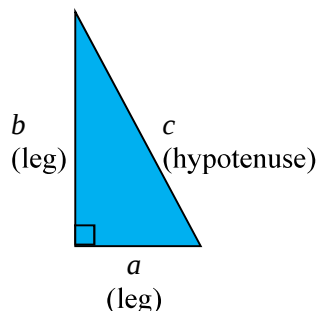
Pythagorean Theorem

Recall that a right triangle is a triangle that contains a 90° angle.

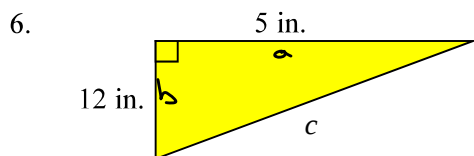
The **Pythagorean theorem** tells us that for a right triangle, the sum of the squares of the two legs equals the square of the hypotenuse.

hypotenuse = side across from the 90° (right) angle

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$



For exercises 6 and 7, find the length of the missing side of the right triangle.



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

$$5^2 + 12^2 = c^2$$

$$25 + 144 = c^2$$

$$169 = c^2$$

$$0 = c^2 - 169$$

$$0 = (c+13)(c-13)$$

$$0 = c+13$$

$$c+13=0$$

$$c=-13$$

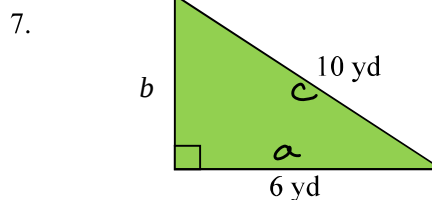
Throw out
-13
(it's a dimension)

$$0 = c-13$$

$$c-13=0$$

$$c=13$$

Missing side is
13 in.



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

$$6^2 + b^2 = 10^2$$

$$36 + b^2 = 100$$

$$b^2 = 64$$

$$b = \pm \sqrt{64}$$

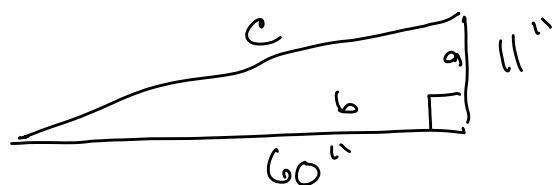
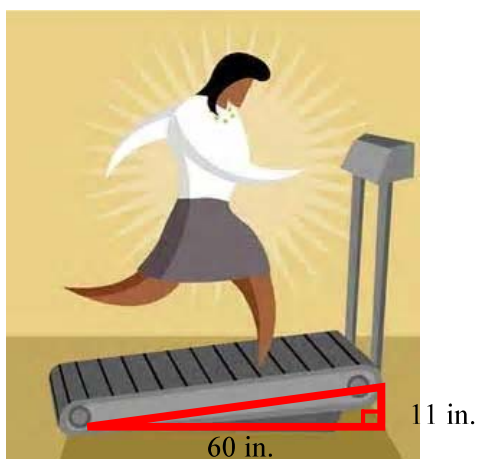
$$b = \pm 8$$

Throw out negative

$$b = 8 \text{ yds}$$

Missing side is 8 yds

8. The deck of a treadmill forms a right triangle with the floor. Find the length of the treadmill deck.



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

$$11^2 + 60^2 = c^2$$

$$121 + 3600 = c^2$$

$$3721 = c^2$$

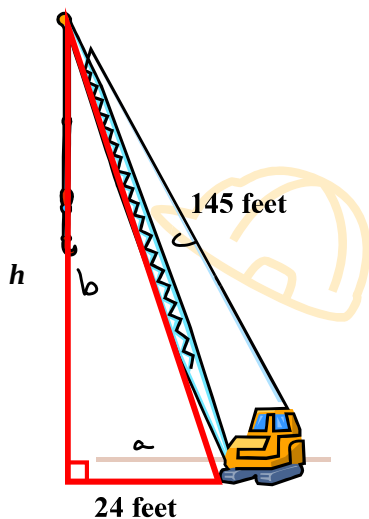
$$c = \pm 61$$

choose the positive.

$$c = 61 \text{ in}$$

The deck is 61 in long.

9. Find the height of the crane.



$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

$$h^2 + 24^2 = 145^2$$

$$h^2 + 576 = 21025$$

$$h^2 = 21025 - 576$$

$$h^2 = 20449$$

$$h = 143$$

The height is 143 ft.

$$\begin{array}{r} 143 \\ 143 \times 143 \\ \hline 15729 \end{array}$$