$\qquad$ Solving Quadratic Equations by Completing the Square


| COMPLETING THE SQUARE | When you don't have a perfect square trinomial, you can create one! This process is called Completing the Square. |  |
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|  | Example | Steps |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & x^{2}+8 x-20=0 \\ & x^{2}+8 x \end{aligned}$ | 1. Rewrite as $x^{2}+b x=c$ by moving the given $c$ to the right side of the equation. |
|  | $\left(\overline{{ }_{\square}}\right)^{2}=(\square)^{2}=$ | 2. Find $\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^{2}$. This will be the new $c$ value. |
|  | $x^{2}+8 x \quad=20$ | 3. Add $\left(\frac{b}{2}\right)^{2}$ to both sides of the equation to create a perfect square on the left side of the equation. |
|  |  | 4. Factor the perfect square trinomial. Simplify the right side. |
|  |  | 5. Take the square root of both sides of the equation. |
|  |  | 6. Solve for $x$ using the positive and negative square roots. These are the solutions. |
| YOU TRY! | Directions: Solve each quadratic equation by completing the square. |  |
|  | 1. $x^{2}-6 x-16=0$ | 2. $x^{2}-2 x-5=0$ |
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## Answers:

1. $x=8, x=-2$
2. $x=1 \pm \sqrt{6}$
3. $x=8, x=10$
4. $x=-4 \pm \sqrt{5}$
5. $x=-7, x=-1$
6. $x=3 \pm \sqrt{5}$
