

4.2.2 - Quadratic Equations

4.2 - Algebra - Solving Equations

Leaving Certificate Mathematics

Ordinary Level & Higher Level



Example 1

Q. Solve for x: $12x^2 - 10x + 10 = 8$.

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$$\begin{aligned}12x^2 - 10x + 10 &= 8 \\12x^2 - 10x + 10 - 8 &= 8 - 8 \\12x^2 - 10x + 2 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

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$3x$

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$$= \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\therefore x = \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{2}$$

Example 2

Q. Solve for x : $\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$.

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Answer:

$$\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$$

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

Example 2

Q. Solve for x : $\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$.

Answer:

$$\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$$
$$\frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1}$$

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Answer:

$$\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$$
$$\frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} = \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2}$$

Example 2

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Answer:

$$\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$$
$$\frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} = \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2}$$
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$$\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$$
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$$2(x-1)(2) + 3(3x+1)(2)$$

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Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} &= \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} &= \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2} \\ 2(x-1)(2) + 3(3x+1)(2) &= 5(3x+1)(x-1)\end{aligned}$$

Example 2

Q. Solve for x : $\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} &= \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} &= \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2} \\ 2(x-1)(2) + 3(3x+1)(2) &= 5(3x+1)(x-1) \\ 4(x-1) &\end{aligned}$$

Example 2

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Answer:

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Q. Solve for x : $\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} &= \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} &= \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2} \\ 2(x-1)(2) + 3(3x+1)(2) &= 5(3x+1)(x-1) \\ 4(x-1) + 6(3x+1) &= (15x+5)(x-1) \\ 4x - 4 + 18x + 6 &\end{aligned}$$

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Q. Solve for x : $\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} = \frac{5}{2}$.

Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} &= \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} &= \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2} \\ 2(x-1)(2) + 3(3x+1)(2) &= 5(3x+1)(x-1) \\ 4(x-1) + 6(3x+1) &= (15x+5)(x-1) \\ 4x - 4 + 18x + 6 &= 15x(x-1) + 5(x-1) \\ 22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 15x\end{aligned}$$

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Answer:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} &= \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} &= \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2} \\ 2(x-1)(2) + 3(3x+1)(2) &= 5(3x+1)(x-1) \\ 4(x-1) + 6(3x+1) &= (15x+5)(x-1) \\ 4x - 4 + 18x + 6 &= 15x(x-1) + 5(x-1) \\ 22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 15x + 5x - 5\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2}{3x+1} + \frac{3}{x-1} &= \frac{5}{2} \\ \frac{2(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{3x+1} + \frac{3(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{x-1} &= \frac{5(3x+1)(x-1)(2)}{2} \\ 2(x-1)(2) + 3(3x+1)(2) &= 5(3x+1)(x-1) \\ 4(x-1) + 6(3x+1) &= (15x+5)(x-1) \\ 4x - 4 + 18x + 6 &= 15x(x-1) + 5(x-1) \\ 22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 15x + 5x - 5 \\ 22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 10x - 5\end{aligned}$$

Example 2

$$22x + 2 = 15x^2 - 10x - 5$$

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$$\begin{aligned} 22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 10x - 5 \\ 22x + 2 - 15x^2 + 10x + 5 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} 22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 10x - 5 \\ 22x + 2 - 15x^2 + 10x + 5 &= 0 \\ -15x^2 + 32x + 7 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

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$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} x &= \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\ &= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{32^2 - 4(-15)(7)}}{2(-15)} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 10x - 5 \\22x + 2 - 15x^2 + 10x + 5 &= 0 \\-15x^2 + 32x + 7 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{32^2 - 4(-15)(7)}}{2(-15)} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{1024 + 420}}{-30}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}22x + 2 &= 15x^2 - 10x - 5 \\22x + 2 - 15x^2 + 10x + 5 &= 0 \\-15x^2 + 32x + 7 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{32^2 - 4(-15)(7)}}{2(-15)} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{1024 + 420}}{-30} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{1444}}{-30}\end{aligned}$$

Example 2

$$x = \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{1444}}{-30}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{1444}}{-30} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm 38}{-30}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-16 + 19}{-15} \\&= \frac{3}{-15}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-16 + 19}{-15} \\&= \frac{3}{-15} \\&= -\frac{1}{5}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-16 + 19}{-15} & x &= \frac{-16 - 19}{-15} \\&= \frac{3}{-15} \\&= -\frac{1}{5}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-16 + 19}{-15} \\&= \frac{3}{-15} \\&= -\frac{1}{5}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-16 - 19}{-15} \\&= \frac{-35}{-15}\end{aligned}$$

Example 2

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{1444}}{-30} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm 38}{-30} \\&= \frac{-16 \pm 19}{-15}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll}x &= \frac{-16 + 19}{-15} & x &= \frac{-16 - 19}{-15} \\&= \frac{3}{-15} & &= \frac{-35}{-15} \\&= -\frac{1}{5} & &= \frac{7}{3}\end{array}$$

Example 2

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-32 \pm \sqrt{1444}}{-30} \\&= \frac{-32 \pm 38}{-30} \\&= \frac{-16 \pm 19}{-15}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll}x = \frac{-16 + 19}{-15} & x = \frac{-16 - 19}{-15} \\= \frac{3}{-15} &= \frac{-35}{-15} \\= -\frac{1}{5} &= \frac{7}{3}\end{array}$$

$\therefore x = -\frac{1}{5}, \frac{7}{3}$