

Chapter 12 (p. 590)

binomial

A polynomial with two terms.

$$\begin{aligned}x + y \\ 2a^2 - 3 \\ 4m^3n^2 + 6mn^4\end{aligned}$$

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degree of a polynomial

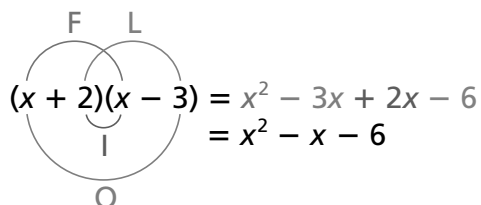
The greatest degree of the terms in a polynomial.

The polynomial $4x^5 - 6x^2 + 7$ has degree 5.

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FOIL

An acronym for the terms used when multiplying two binomials: the First, Outer, Inner, and Last terms.



$$\begin{aligned}(x + 2)(x - 3) &= x^2 - 3x + 2x - 6 \\ &= x^2 - x - 6\end{aligned}$$

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polynomial

One monomial or the sum or difference of monomials.

$$2x^2 + 3xy - 7y^2$$

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trinomial

A polynomial with three terms.

$$4x^2 + 3xy - 5y^2$$