

# Use Synthetic Division

Divide.

1)  $(x^4 + 10x^3 + 14x^2 - 35x + 22) \div (x + 4)$

$$\begin{array}{r} x+4=0 \\ -4 \quad -4 \\ \hline x=-4 \\ -4 \overline{) 1 \quad 10 \quad 14 \quad -35 \quad 22} \\ \quad \downarrow \quad -4 \quad -24 \quad 40 \quad -20 \\ \hline \quad 1 \quad 6 \quad -10 \quad 5 \quad \boxed{2} \\ 1x^3 + 6x^2 - 10x + 5 + \frac{2}{x+4} \end{array}$$

2)  $(x^3 - 4x^2 - 13x + 1) \div (x + 1)$

$$\begin{array}{r} -1 \overline{) 1 \quad -4 \quad -13 \quad 1} \\ \quad \downarrow \quad -1 \quad 5 \quad 8 \\ \hline \quad 1 \quad -5 \quad -8 \quad \boxed{9} \\ x^2 - 5x - 8 + \frac{9}{x+1} \end{array}$$

## Remainder Theorem and Factor Theorem

What is the difference between a factor and a solution?

Solution  $x =$                       Factor  $(x)$

What is the difference between a solution and a root? Nothing

Given the factor find the solution:

1.  $(x-7)$   $x-7=0$       2.  $(3x+1)$   $3x+1=0$

$x=7$                        $x=-\frac{1}{3}$

Given the root find the factor:

3.  $x=4$                       4.  $x=\frac{1}{2}$

$x=4$   
 $(x-4)$

$$x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x - \frac{1}{2} = 0$$

$$\cdot 2x = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2$$

$$2x = 1$$

$$\frac{-1 \quad -1}{2x-1}$$

there's a  $0x^3$ .

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} 5 & 3 & 0 & -5 & 1 & -9 \\ & & 15 & 75 & 350 & 1755 \\ \hline & 3 & 15 & 70 & 351 & 1746 \end{array}$$

The remainder is 1746, so  $P(5)=1746$ .

Let's Try:

5. Use synthetic division to find the value of  $P(-3)$  if  $P(x) = x^4 - 5x^2 + x + 10$ .

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -3 & 1 & 0 & -5 & 1 & 10 \\ & \downarrow & -3 & 9 & -12 & 33 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & 4 & -11 & 43 \end{array}$$

$$P(-3) = 43$$

6. Use synthetic division to find the value of  $P(2)$  if  $P(x) = x^3 - 12x^2 + 8x + 9$ .

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 2 & 1 & -12 & 8 & 9 \\ & \downarrow & 2 & -20 & -24 \\ \hline & 1 & -10 & -12 & -15 \end{array} \quad P(2) = -15$$

\* if the remainder is zero the value is a solution.

**Factor Theorem:**

If a remainder is **zero**, the number outside the box in synthetic division is a zero of the function; therefore, the related factor is a factor of the polynomial.

**Example:** Given  $f(x) = 2x^3 + 11x^2 + 18x + 9$ , is  $(x+3)$  a factor of the polynomial?

Because they give you a factor, you must set equal to zero and solve for the solution. Put -3 outside the box, and the coefficients of the polynomial inside the box.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} -3 & 2 & 11 & 18 & 9 \\ & & -6 & -15 & -9 \\ \hline & 2 & 5 & 3 & 0 \end{array}$$

The remainder is 0, so  $x = -3$  is a zero of the function. That means  $(x + 3)$  is a factor of the polynomial

Let's try:

7. Given  $f(x) = 2x^3 + 11x^2 + 18x + 9$ , is  $(x - 1)$  a factor of the polynomial?

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrr} 1 & 2 & 11 & 18 & 9 \\ & & 2 & 13 & 31 \\ \hline & 2 & 13 & 31 & 40 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x-1 &= 0 \\ +1 &+1 \\ x &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

No,  $x-1$  is Not a factor

8. Given  $f(x) = x^4 + 12x^2 + 18x + 9$ , is  $(x + 3)$  a factor of the polynomial?

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} -3 & 1 & 0 & 12 & 18 & 9 \\ & & -3 & 9 & -63 & 135 \\ \hline & 1 & -3 & 21 & -45 & 144 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x+3 &= 0 \\ x &= -3 \end{aligned}$$

No,  $x+3$  is not a factor