

9-6 The Quadratic Formula

Answer each question as directed.

1. Given the quadratic equation

$$2x^2 - 16x = -25 \quad 2x^2 - 16x + 25 = 0$$

a. What value should be used for a in the quadratic formula?

$$a = 2$$

b. What value should be used for b in the quadratic formula?

$$b = -16$$

c. What value should be used for c in the quadratic formula?

$$c = 25$$

2. Given the quadratic equation

$$9x^2 + 12x + 4 = 0$$

a. What is the value of the discriminant?

$$b^2 - 4ac = (12)^2 - 4(9)(4)$$

$$= 144 - 144$$

$$= 0$$

b. Use the discriminant to tell how many solutions the equation will have.

$$1 \text{ solution}$$

Solve each quadratic equation using the quadratic formula. Give your answer in the form indicated.

3. Give your answer in simplified radical form.

$$x^2 - 2x = 4$$

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

$$a = 1, b = -2, c = -4$$

$$x = \frac{-(-2) \pm \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(1)(-4)}}{2(1)}$$

$$= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4 + 16}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{20}}{2} \quad \sqrt{20} = \sqrt{4 \cdot 5} = 2\sqrt{5}$$

$$= \frac{2 \pm 2\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

Answer: $1 \pm \sqrt{5}$

4. Give your answer rounded to the nearest hundredth. $3x^2 + 2x - 4 = 0$

$$a = 3, b = 2, c = -4$$

$$x = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{(2)^2 - 4(3)(-4)}}{2(3)}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 + 48}}{6}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{52}}{6}$$

$$x = \frac{-2 + \sqrt{52}}{6} \quad \text{or} \quad x = \frac{-2 - \sqrt{52}}{6}$$

$$\approx 0.87$$

$$\approx -1.54$$

Answer: $x = 0.87 \text{ or } -1.54$