








Quick Check for Factoring Polynomials

CHECK FOR	TWO TERMS	THREE TERMS	FOUR TERMS
Greatest Common Factor			
Grouping by Pairs			
Difference of Squares $a^2 - b^2 = (a+b)(a-b)$			
Sum or Difference of Cubes $a^3 + b^3 = (a+b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$ $a^3 - b^3 = (a-b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$			
Perfect Square Trinomial $a^2 + 2ab + b^2 = (a+b)^2$ $a^2 - 2ab + b^2 = (a-b)^2$			
Trial-&-Error or <i>ac</i> method (Product/Sum method)		