

FACTORING COMPLETELY

1. **Always**, look for a GCF first.
2. For a binomial: See if it is a **Difference of Squares, Sum or Cubes, or Difference of Cubes**.
3. For 4 Terms: Try **Grouping by Pairs**.
4. For a trinomial: See if it is a **Perfect Square Trinomial**.

OR

5. If not a perfect square: Try Trial- and error (reversing FOIL) or the product/sum method.