

Synthetic Division

To get the zero for a function, **sometimes we are guessing the values for x, the so-called** rational roots test.

Rational roots test is a handy way of obtaining a list of useful first guesses when you are trying to find the zeroes (roots) of a polynomial.

Example: solve the function $y = x^2 - 5x + 6$

$a_n = 1$ & $a_0 \rightarrow$ Constant

$$= y^2 - a_2 x^2 + a_1 x - a_0$$

Solution: we examine the leading coefficient (X^2), we have +1 constant +6, what will be the possible values of x

1, -1, 2, -2, +3, -3, +6, -6. for constants, $\pm \frac{1,6}{1,1}, \pm \frac{2,3}{1,1}$

6

{	$(1)(6)$
	$(-1)(-6)$
	$(2)(3)$
	$(-2)(-3)$
	$(1)(6)$
	$(-1)(-6)$

Next step, we let $x+3=0$ as first trial $x=-3$

1-We write coefficients only without x^2 or x

2- Coefficient of x^2 carrying down

3-multiply $-3 * +1$.

4- add $(-3) + (-5) = -8$

5-multiply $(-8) * (-3) = 24$

6-add $+24$ to $+6 = +30$.

$$\begin{array}{r|rrr} -3 & 1 & -5 & +6 \\ & \downarrow & & \\ & -3 & +24 & \\ \hline & 1 & -8 & 30 \end{array}$$

$f(-3) = 9 + 15 + 6 = 30$

Continue for roots finding.

Example: solve the function $y = x^2 - 5x + 6$

2nd trial:

Next step we let $X-2=0$ i.e $x=2$

The image shows a handwritten polynomial division of $x^2 - 5x + 6$ by $x - 2$. The dividend is written as $x^2 - 5x + 6$ with coefficients $+2$, -5 , and $+6$ under the terms. The divisor is $x - 2$ with coefficients $+1$ and -2 . The division steps are shown with blue and red arrows. The quotient is $x - 3$ and the remainder is 0 . The final result is $y = (x-2)(x-3) = 0$.

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 - 5x + 6 \\ x - 2 \overline{) } \\ \underline{+2x - 4} \\ -3x + 10 \\ \underline{+3x - 6} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$y = (x-2)(x-3) = 0$ the result shows that we have two roots $x_1=2, x_2=3$

\Rightarrow there is a root

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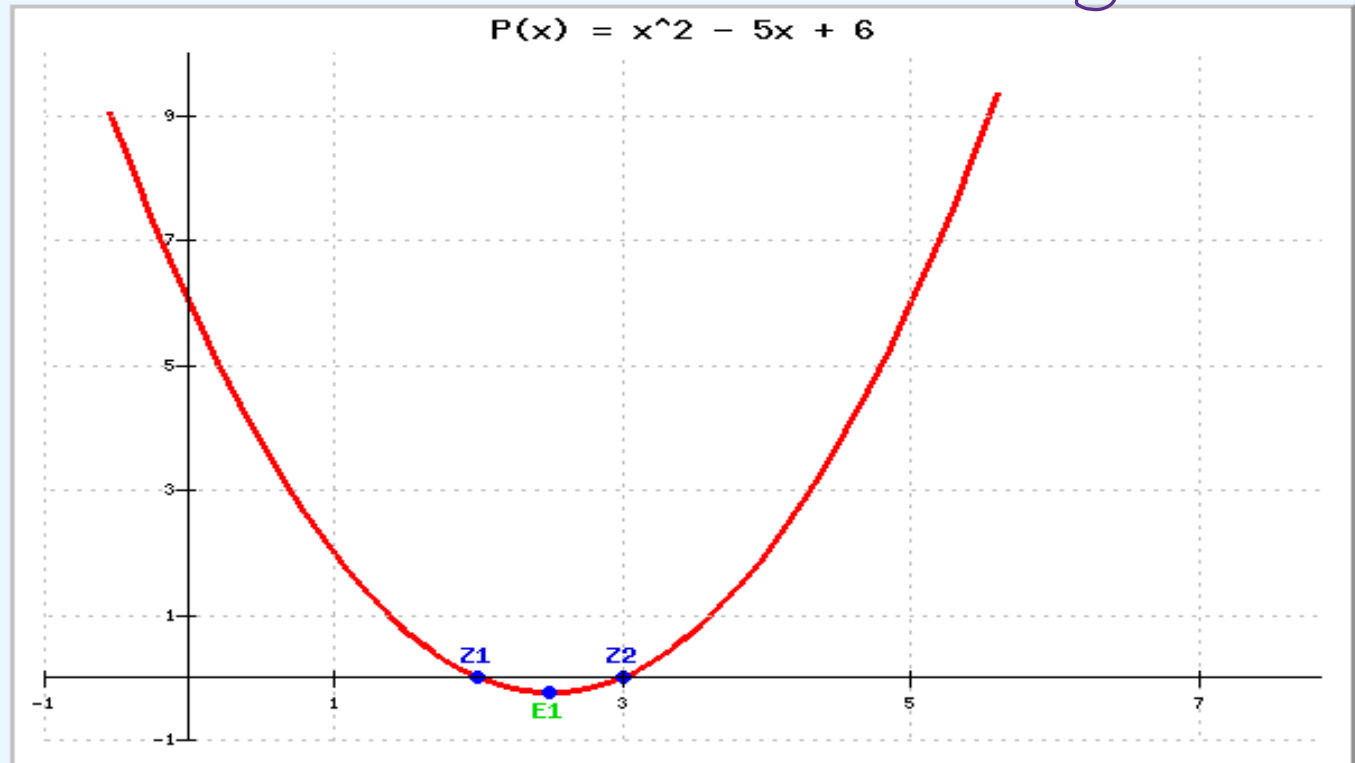
<https://www.mathportal.org/calculators/polynomials-solvers/polynomial-graphing-calculator.php>

$$P(x) = x^2 - 5x + 6$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} X=0 & \rightarrow & y=6 \\ X=2 & & y=0 \\ X=3 & & y=0 \end{array}$$

There are two
roots that make
 $f(x) = 0$

$$\begin{array}{l} X=2 \\ X=3 \end{array}$$



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Example: Divide $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$
by $(x+2)$ by synthetic division

Solution Consider $x+2=0$

$x = -2$
We put at the Left

$$\begin{array}{r|rrrrr} & x^4 & x^3 & x^2 & x & C \\ -2 & 5 & 6 & -9 & -7 & +6 \\ & \downarrow & \nearrow -10 & & & \\ & 5 & -4 & & & \end{array}$$

Steps 1 \rightarrow 3

Step-1 : add 5 to 0 = 5

Step-2 : Multiply $5(-2) = -10$

Step-3 : add (-10) to 6 $\Rightarrow -4$

Divide $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 / (x+2)$ Contd

$$\begin{array}{r} -2 \overline{) 5 \quad 6 \quad -9 \quad -7 \quad +6} \\ \underline{5 \quad -10 \quad +8 \quad +2 \quad +10} \\ 5 \quad -4 \quad -1 \quad -5 \quad +16 \end{array}$$

Steps from 4 \rightarrow 8

step ④

Multiply $(-4 \times -2) = +8$

step ⑤ add $+8 + (-9) = -1$

step ⑥ Multiply $(-1) \text{ by } (-2) = +2$

step ⑦ add $+2 + (-7) = -5$

step ⑧ Multiply $(-5) \text{ by } (-2) = +10$

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Divide : $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$
 $(x+2)$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 -2 \overline{) 5 \quad 6 \quad -9 \quad -7 \quad +6} \\
 \underline{5 \quad -10 \quad +8 \quad +2 \quad +10} \\
 5 \quad -4 \quad -1 \quad -5 \quad +16
 \end{array}$$

Step - 9

Step 9 : Add 6 to 10 \Rightarrow 16
 remainder = 16

Rewrite as

$$5x^3 - 4x - 1 - 5 + \frac{16}{(x+2)}$$

No root

*Quotient with a remainder of 16

[remainder is not Zero]

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Example: Divide: $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$

Try Long division

by $(x+2)$

Solution

Coefficients are placed, For $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^3 \\ x+2 \overline{) 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6} \\ \underline{-5x^4 \quad + 10x^3} \\ 0 \quad -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \end{array}$$

Step 3: Subtract From the Line above

$$-(5x^4 + 10x^3) + 5x^4 + 6x^3 = -4x^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Step 1: } & \frac{5x^4}{x} \\ &= 5x^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Step 2: Multiply} \\ & (5x^3)(x+2) \\ &= 5x^4 + 10x^3 \end{aligned}$$

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Example: $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \div (x+2)$
 by Long division Contd

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{From previous slide} \\
 \begin{array}{r}
 5x^3 - 4x^2 \\
 \hline
 x+2 \overline{) 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6} \\
 \underline{-5x^4 \quad 10x^3} \\
 0 -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\
 \underline{+4x^3 + 8x^2} \\
 -x^2 - 7x + 6
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Step 5: divide

$$-\frac{4x^3}{x} = -4x^2$$

Step 6: Multiply

$$(-4x^2)(x+2) = -4x^3 - 8x^2$$

Step 7: subtract from the line above
 $+4x^3 + 8x^2$

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Example:

Divide $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$
by $(x+2)$ by Long division

Contd

Solution Coefficients are placed, For $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^3 - 4x^2 - x \\ x+2 \overline{) 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6} \\ \underline{-5x^4 \quad 10x^3} \\ 0 \quad -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ \underline{+4x^3 + 8x^2} \\ -x^2 - 7x + 6 \end{array}$$

Step 8: Divide $\rightarrow \frac{-x^2}{x} = -x$

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Example:

Divide $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$
by $(x+2)$ by Long division

Solution Coefficients are placed, For $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^3 - 4x^2 - x \\ x+2 \overline{) 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6} \\ \underline{-5x^4 \quad 10x^3} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 \quad -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ \quad + 4x^3 + 8x^2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 \quad -x^2 - 7x + 6 \\ \quad + x^2 + 2x^2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} -5x + 6 \end{array}$$

Step 9:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Multiply } (-x)(x+2) \\ = -x^2 - 2x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Step 10: Subtract} \\ = +x^2 + 2x^2 \end{array}$$

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Example:

Divide $5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$
by $(x+2)$ by Long division

Solution Coefficients are placed, For $x+2=0$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 5x^3 - 4x^2 - x \\
 \hline
 x+2 \overline{) 5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6} \\
 \underline{-5x^4 \quad 10x^3} \\
 0 \quad -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 0 \quad -4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6 \\
 \underline{+ 4x^3 + 8x^2} \\
 0 \quad -x^2 - 7x + 6
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 0 \quad -x^2 - 7x + 6 \\
 \underline{+ x^2 + 2x^2} \\
 -5x + 6
 \end{array}$$

Step 11

Divide $\frac{-5x}{x} = -5$

Step 12: Multipl

$$-5(x+2) = -5x - 10$$

Step 13: subtract

$$+ 5x + 10$$

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Divisor

$x+2$

$$5x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 5$$

Quotient

$$5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$$

\leftarrow Dividend

$$\begin{array}{r} 5x^4 \\ -5x^4 \end{array}$$

$$0 - 4x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$$

$$+ 4x^3 + 8x^2$$

$$0 - x^2 - 7x + 6$$

$$+ x^2 + 2x^2$$

$$- 5x + 6$$

$$+ 5x + 10$$

$$0 + (16)$$

\rightarrow Remainder

Same result is obtained

$$5x^4 + 6x^3 - 9x^2 - 7x + 6$$

$x+2$

$$= (5x^3 - 4x^2 - x - 5) + \frac{16}{(x+2)}$$

*Quotient with a remainder of 16

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