Quadratic Equation

(Number/Type of Solutions)

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$
, $a \ne 0$

| Examples | Graph of the related function | Number and Type of Solutions/Roots |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| $x^2 - x = 3$ | 3 - 2 - 1 - 1 - 3 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 - 2 | 2 distinct Real roots (crosses x-axis twice) |
| $x^2 + 16 = 8x$ | y 1 2 2 3 3 3 4 4 5 5 7 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 | 1 distinct Real root with a multiplicity of two (double root) (touches x-axis but does not cross) |
| $\frac{1}{2}x^2 - 2x + 3 = 0$ | | 0 Real roots; 2 Complex roots |

Quadratic Equation

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$a \neq 0$$

| Example: $x^2 - 6x + 8 = 0$ | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Solve by factoring | Solve by graphing | | |
| | Graph the related | | |
| $x^2 - 6x + 8 = 0$ | function $f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 8$. | | |
| (x-2)(x-4)=0 | 8 | | |
| (x-2) = 0 or $(x-4) = 0$ | 5- | | |
| x = 2 or x = 4 | 3 | | |
| | 1 | | |
| | 2 1 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | | |

Solutions (roots) to the equation are 2 and 4; the x-coordinates where the function crosses the x-axis.