Factorising Quadratics

$$x^2 + 6x + 8$$

We need two numbers that multiply to give 8, and add to give 6

2 and 4 add to give 6, that is +2 +4:

$$(x + 2)(x + 4)$$

Usually if there is only one sign we only have one bracket

The exception is called the difference of two squares

Factorise: $x^2 - 9$

These numbers are both squared

The answer is (x + 3)(x - 3)



