

## TI 83/84: The Quadratic Formula Program:

Here's a program that will let your TI-83, 83+, 84, 85, or 86 do the quadratic formula for you. If the answers are complex numbers, it will automatically write them as complex numbers. If you have a Casio calculator, you don't need to do this – see a different handouts.

```
:Prompt A, B, C
:a+bi
:B2-4A*C → D
:(-B+√(D))/(2A) → S
:(-B-√(D))/(2A) → T
:Disp S,T
:REAL
:Stop
```

Here's how to get the program into your TI-83 or 83+:

press **PRGM**

choose NEW, press **ENTER**

To "choose," use the arrow keys to highlight the thing you want, then press **ENTER** to choose it.

type in the name of your program: **QUADRATI**

Notice that the calculator is already in alphabet mode. Look for the letters to the top right of the calculator keys, then type in the title.

Press **ENTER**

Start entering the program (check off each line as you enter it):

:Prompt A,B,C

press **PRGM**, right arrow to I/O, choose **2: Prompt** (remember to press **ENTER** to actually choose it!), press **ALPHA** A, press the comma, then **ALPHA** B, press the comma, and **ALPHA** C, press **ENTER** to end the line.

:a+bi

press **MODE**, arrow to a+bi, press **ENTER** to choose it, press **ENTER** to end the line.

*This line is not needed on the 85 or 86.*

:B<sup>2</sup>-4A\*C → D

**ALPHA** B **x<sup>2</sup>** **-** **4** **ALPHA** A **x** **ALPHA** C **STO** **ALPHA** D **ENTER**

(in other words, just type it in, use **STO** key for the arrow. Use subtraction, not negative. Press **ENTER** to end the line.)

:(-B+√(D))/(2A) → S

type it in, use **STO** key for the arrow. Double check parentheses! Use a negative in front of the B, not a subtraction. Press **ENTER** to end the line.

:(-B-√(D))/(2A) → T

type it in, use **STO** key for the arrow. Double check parentheses! Press **ENTER** to end the line.

:Disp S,T

press **PRGM**, right arrow to I/O, choose **3: Disp**, press **ALPHA** S, press **,**, press **ALPHA** T, press **ENTER** to end the line.

:REAL

press **MODE**, arrow to *real*, press **ENTER** to choose it, press **ENTER** to end the line.

*This line is not needed on the 85 or 86.*

:Stop

press **PRGM**, choose **F: Stop** (use your arrow to go way down the list).

Press **2nd** **QUIT** to quit editing the program.

**If you get messed up partway through the program, press **2nd** **QUIT** to get back to the home screen, then press **PRGM** and choose EDIT and QUADRATI.**

To run the program, press **PRGM**, choose QUADRATI, press **ENTER** twice (once to choose, again to run).

Try it with these examples to make sure that the program is running correctly:

1.  $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$

A = ? 1

B = ? -5

C = ? 6

answers should be:            3  
   2

2.  $2x^2 - 9x - 35 = 0$

A = ? 2

B = ? -9

C = ? -35

answers should be:            7  
   -2.5

3.  $x^2 - 4x + 13 = 0$

A = ? 1

B = ? -4

C = ? 13

answers should be:             $2 + 3i$   
    $2 - 3i$

4.  $x^2 - 9 = 0$

A = ? 1

B = ? 0

C = ? -9

answers should be:            3  
   -3