

ALGEBRAIC IDENTITIES AND FORMULAE

1. $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$
2. $(a - b)^2 = a^2 - 2ab + b^2$

3. $a^2 + b^2 = (a + b)^2 - 2ab$
4. $a^2 + b^2 = (a - b)^2 + 2ab$

5. $(a + b)^2 + (a - b)^2 = 2(a^2 + b^2)$
6. $(a + b)^2 - (a - b)^2 = 4ab$

7. $(a + b)^2 = (a - b)^2 + 4ab$
8. $(a - b)^2 = (a + b)^2 - 4ab$

9. $(a + b)(a - b) = a^2 - b^2$

10. (i) $(x + a)(x + b) = x^2 + (a + b)x + ab$
(ii) $(x + a)(x - b) = x^2 + (a - b)x - ab$
(iii) $(x - a)(x + b) = x^2 - (a - b)x - ab$
(iv) $(x - a)(x - b) = x^2 - (a + b)x + ab$

11. $(a + b + c)^2 = a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + 2ab + 2bc + 2ca$
12. $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = (a + b + c)^2 - 2(ab + bc + ca)$

13. $(a + b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$
14. $(a + b)^3 = a^3 + b^3 + 3ab(a + b)$

15. $(a - b)^3 = a^3 - 3a^2b + 3ab^2 - b^3$
16. $(a - b)^3 = a^3 - b^3 - 3ab(a - b)$

17. $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)^3 - 3ab(a + b)$
18. $a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)^3 + 3ab(a - b)$

19. $a^3 + b^3 = (a + b)(a^2 - ab + b^2)$
20. $a^3 - b^3 = (a - b)(a^2 + ab + b^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}21. \quad a^3 + b^3 + c^3 - 3abc &= (a + b + c)(a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - ab - bc - ca) \\&= \frac{1}{2}(a + b + c)[(a - b)^2 + (b - c)^2 + (c - a)^2] \\&= (a + b + c)[(a + b + c)^2 - 3(ab + bc + ca)]\end{aligned}$$

22. If $(a + b + c) = 0$, then $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc$
23. If $a^3 + b^3 + c^3 = 3abc$, then $a + b + c = 0$ or $a = b = c$
24. If $a^2 + b^2 + c^2 = ab + bc + ca$, then $a = b = c$.

$$25. \quad a^2 + \frac{1}{a^2} = \left(a + \frac{1}{a}\right)^2 - 2.$$

$$26. \quad a^2 + \frac{1}{a^2} = \left(a - \frac{1}{a}\right)^2 + 2.$$

27. If $x + \frac{1}{x} = k$, then
(i) $x - \frac{1}{x} = \sqrt{k^2 - 4}$
(ii) $x^2 + \frac{1}{x^2} = k^2 - 2$
(iii) $x^3 + \frac{1}{x^3} = k^3 - 3k$