Factoring Linear Expressions

If the terms in an expression share a common factor, you can **factor** that expression. That means you can rewrite it as a product.

Let's try it! Factor the expression 12a - 3b + 6.

- First, find the greatest common factor of all the terms, which is 3.
- Next, rewrite each term with 3 as a factor.
- Then, factor out the 3 to rewrite the expression as a product.

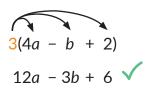
$$12a - 3b + 6$$

 $3(4a) - 3(b) + 3(2)$

3(4a - b + 2)



To check your answer, distribute and make sure you get the expression you started with.



Now you try! Factor each expression. You can check your answer by distributing.

$$12r + 22$$

$$24x - 9y$$

$$60m + 24n$$

$$16u + 6v + 10$$