**Factoring Hints**

**<u>Steps For Factoring</u>**

1.  Factor out Greatest Common Factor (GCF)

2.  If  it is a binomial, check for special factoring formulas (i.e. difference of two squares, sum of two cubes, and difference of two cubes)

3.  If it is a trinomial, use "Trinomial Factoring methods.

4.  If it contains four terms, attempt to factor by grouping (note:  Usually one needs to group two-by-two, but occasionally, one needs to group three-by-one.