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LESSON 8.4

## Graphing Calculator Activity: Solving Polynomial Equations <br> For use before the lesson "Solve Polynomial Equations in Factored Form"

## QUESTION How can you use a graphing calculator to solve a polynomial equation?

You can solve a polynomial equation by graphing each side of the equation. Then find the point(s) of intersection. Any $x$-value of a point of intersection is a solution of the original equation. Remember to check any solution in the original equation.

## EXAMPLE Solve a polynomial using a graphing calculator

Use a graphing calculator to solve $2 x^{2}=6 x$.
STEP 1 Press $\boldsymbol{y}=$. Let $y_{1}$ equal the left side of the equation. Let $y_{2}$ equal the right side of the equation.


STEP 2 Graph the equations using a friendly viewing window.


STEP 3 Use the intersect feature. Press 2nd [CALC] 5. The graphs intersect when $x=0$ and $x=3$. You can see that these are solutions of the original equation by doing an algebraic check.


PRACTICE Use a graphing calculator to solve the polynomial equation. Round your answer to the nearest tenth.

1. $(x-5)(x+2)=0$
2. $5 x=3 x^{2}$
3. $12 x^{2}=42 x$
4. $24 x^{2}=-9 x$
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## Casio CFX-9850GC Plus

From the main menu, choose GRAPH.
2 X,, $\mathbf{T}$ T $\boldsymbol{x}^{2}$ EXE 6 X, $\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathrm{T}$ EXE
SHIFT F3 (-) 10 EXE 10 EXE 1 EXE
(-) 5 EXE 25 EXE 5 EXE EXIT F6
SHIFT F5 F5

