

Solve $9x^2 - 12x - 59 = 0$ using the quadratic formula.

$a = 9$ $b = -12$ $c = -59$

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-12) \pm \sqrt{(-12)^2 - 4(9)(-59)}}{2(9)}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{144 + 2124}}{18}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{2268}}{18}$$

$$x = \frac{12 \pm 18\sqrt{7}}{18}$$

$$x = \frac{\cancel{12}^2}{\cancel{18}_3} \pm \frac{\cancel{18}\sqrt{7}}{\cancel{18}} = \boxed{\frac{2}{3} \pm \sqrt{7}}$$

or

$$\frac{2}{3} \pm \frac{3 \cdot \sqrt{7}}{3 \cdot 1} = \boxed{\frac{2 \pm 3\sqrt{7}}{3}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{2268} &= \sqrt{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 7} \\ &= 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \sqrt{7} \\ &= 18\sqrt{7} \end{aligned}$$

Factor tree for 2268:

```

    2268
   /  \
  2    1134
 /  \
2    567
 /  \
3    189
 /  \
3    63
 /  \
3    21
 /  \
3    7

```