

- 3 Applying the Zero-Product Property** The diagram shows a pattern for an open-top box. The total area of the sheet of material used to make the box is 130 in.^2 . The height of the box is 1 in. Therefore, $1 \text{ in.} \times 1 \text{ in.}$ squares are cut from each corner. Find the dimensions of the box.

Define Let x = width of a side of the box.

Then the width of the material = $x + 1 + 1 = x + 2$.

Then the length of the material = $x + 3 + 1 + 1 = x + 5$.

Relate width \times length = area of the sheet

Write $(x + 2)(x + 5) = 130$

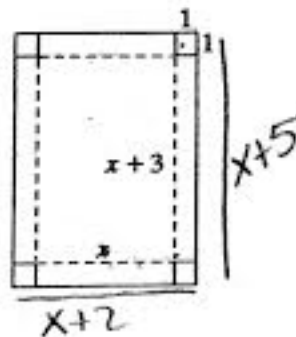
$x^2 + 7x + 10 = 130$ Find the product $(x + \square)(x + \square)$.

$x^2 + 7x - 120 = 0$ Subtract \square from each side.

$(x - 8)(x + 15) = 0$ Factor $x^2 + 7x - \square$.

$x - \square = 0$ or $x + \square = 0$ Use the Zero-Product Property.

$x = 8$ or $x = -15$ Solve for x .



The only reasonable solution is 8 . So the dimensions of the box are

$8 \text{ in.} \times 11 \text{ in.} \times 1 \text{ in.}$

Check Understanding

1. Solve each equation.

a. $(3y - 5)(y - 2) = 0$

$x = \frac{5}{3}$ or 2

b. $x^2 + x - 12 = 0$

$(x+4)(x-3) = 0$
 $x = -4$ or 3

c. $x^2 - 12x = -36$

$x^2 - 12x + 36 = 0$
 $(x-6)(x-6) = 0$
 $x = 6$

2. Suppose that a box has a base with a width of x , a length of $x + 1$, and a height of 2 in. It is cut from a rectangular sheet of material with an area of 182 in.^2 . Find the dimensions of the box.