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[We can solve](#) this to find:

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[By the Zero-Product Property](#)

$$(x - 1) = 0$$

$$(x^2 - 2) = 0$$

$x = 1$  is the root we knew

[We can solve](#) this to find:  $x = \pm\sqrt{2}$

## Finding Roots of Polynomials - Example 2

**Example:** Find the roots of  $P(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 2$

In other words, find the solutions to:

$$x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 2 = 0$$

Possible values of roots  $\frac{p}{q}$ :  $\pm \frac{1}{1}, \pm \frac{2}{1}$

We need to evaluate  $P(x)$  at our possible roots, to see which are roots.

$$P(1) = 0$$

$$P(2) = 2 \neq 0$$

$$P(-1) = 2 \neq 0$$

$$P(-2) = -6 \neq 0$$

So, the only solution we found was:  $x = 1$

What are the other solutions?

Since  $x = 1$  is a root, **The Factoring Theorem** tells us:

$$P(x) = x^3 - x^2 - 2x + 2 = (x - 1)Q(x)$$

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**Conc:** The roots of  $P(x) = 3x^3 + 2x^2 - 7x + 2$  are:  $x = 1, \sqrt{2}, -\sqrt{2}$

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Note: The RRT did not find the roots  $\pm\sqrt{2}$  since they are not rational.