## Expanding

## What's expanding?

Expanding means multiplying out brackets. It's the algebraic equivalent of multiplying two numbers together:

$$5 \times 6 = 30$$
$$3(y+2) = 3y+6$$

## How do I expand?

No, you don't have to eat four dozen eggs every morning – just follow these procedures.

Some people like to use the mnemonic FOIL to remember how to do this.

- 1. First
- 2. Inside
- 3. Outside
- 4. Last

All it really involves is multiplying each term in the first bracket by each term in the second bracket, then adding together the results of all this multiplication.

