

$$2x^2 - 12x - 7$$

Multiply 2 x 7

$$x^2 - 12x - 14$$

Complete the square – either algebraically or with boxes

	x	-6	
x	$x^2$	$-6x$	
-6	$-6x$	$36$	

-14 -36

$$(x - 6)^2 - 50$$

This would be the answer if we hadn't multiplied by 2

$$\left(x - \frac{6}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{50}{2}$$

.....so now we need to divide by 2.

$$2(x - 3)^2 - 25$$

This would account for our 2 boxes but we need to indicate that we have 2 boxes on the front.