Strategy for Factoring $x^2 + bx + c$ by Grouping

1. Find two integers that have a product of c and a sum equal to b.
2. Replace bx by the sum of two terms whose coefficients are the two numbers found in step 1.
3. Factor the resulting four-term polynomial by grouping.

Strategy for Factoring $ax^2 + bx + c$ by the ac Method

1. Find two integers that have a product of ac and a sum equal to b.
2. Replace bx by the sum of two terms whose coefficients are the two numbers found in step 1.
3. Factor the resulting four-term polynomial by grouping.