

Algebraic Expressions:

An algebraic expression can be referred to as a polynomial. The degree of a polynomial is defined by the term with the highest power.

Therefore...

$x^2 + 3$ is a polynomial of degree 2 (Quadratic)

$x^2 + 3x^2 - 7$ is a polynomial of degree 2 (Quadratic)

$x^7 + 5x^3 - 8x$ is a polynomial of degree 7... and so on

A quadratic with 3 terms often descending powers (eg $2x^2 + 6x - 5$) is often referred to as a trinomial.

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