Name _____   Date_____

DOTS: Difference of Two Perfect Squares ($a^2 - b^2$)

Factoring Difference of Two Squares:

1. Both terms must be _____ and have a _____ between them.
2. Check the binomial for GCF.
3. Use two sets of parentheses (one's a plus, one's a minus).
4. Split up what it takes to make the 1st a perfect square and what takes the 2nd to be a perfect square.

Factor out the following using the DOTS method:

1. $81n^2 - 169$	2. $4x^2 - 121y^2$
3. $2x^2 - 50$	4. $3b^2 - 48$
5. $b^4 - 1296$	6. $25x^2 - 36$
7. $49x^2 - 144y^2$	8. $x^2 - 4y^2$
9. $64r^2 - 1$	10. $25x^2 - 49y^2$
11. $121 - 49x^2$	12. $2x^3 - 162x$