

Prove that the following sets are commutative rings with unity.

1.  $R = \{0, 2, 4, 6, 8\}$ , under addition and multiplication mod 10.
2.  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] = \{a + b\sqrt{2} | a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , under ordinary addition and multiplication of real numbers.

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Remember:

1. An *integral domain* is a commutative ring (with 1), with no zero-divisors (i.e. such that if  $ab = 0$ , then  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ ).
2. A *field* is a commutative ring (with 1), in which every non-zero element is a unit (i.e. in which every non-zero element has a multiplicative inverse).

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1. We know that if a commutative ring (with 1) has no zero-divisors, then the cancellation property holds.

That is, if a commutative ring (with 1) has no zero-divisors, then *if  $ab = ac$ , then  $b = c$ .*

Show that the converse is also true; that is, show that a commutative ring with the cancellation property has no zero-divisors.

2. Show that every nonzero element of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  is either a unit or a zero-divisor.
3. Find a non-zero element in a ring that is neither a zero-divisor nor a unit.

*Hint:* Consider the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[x]$ , the set of all polynomials with integers as coefficients.