

## Section 1: Summing series

### Crucial points

1. **Check your answer by substituting for  $n$**

When using the standard results to find a sum of the first  $n$  terms of a series, it is a good idea to substitute  $n = 1$ , and perhaps  $n = 2$  as well, to check your result.

2. **Factorise where possible**

When using standard results, there can be quite a lot of algebra involved in simplifying the result. Make sure you take out any common factors first, as this makes the algebra a lot simpler.