



Secondary Math 2 Honors  
Unit 4 Graphing Quadratic Functions

Forms of Quadratic Functions

standard Form:  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$  where  $a \neq 0$ . There are no parentheses.   
 Example:  $f(x) = -3x^2 + 2x - 7$  ← y int

factored Form:  $f(x) = a(x-p)(x-q)$ , where  $a \neq 0$ . Written as a multiplication problem.   
 Also known as intercept form.   
 Example:  $f(x) = (x-4)(x+5)$  ← x intercepts   
 p and q are x intercepts

vertex Form:  $f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$ , where  $a \neq 0$ . x only shows up once, as part of a perfect square.   
 Example:  $f(x) = 2(x+7)^2 - 1$    
 (h, k) vertex

Conic Form of a parabola:  $4p(y-k) = (x-h)^2$  or  $4p(x-h) = (y-k)^2$    
 Examples:  $4(y-2) = (x+5)^2$  or  $-8(x+6) = (y-1)^2$

examples: State whether each quadratic function is in standard, factored, or vertex form.

a)  $f(x) = 2(x+3)(x-5)$

Factored

$p = -3$   $q = 5$

b)  $f(x) = -(x+4)^2 - 5$

vertex

c)  $f(x) = x^2 + 2x + 4$  ← y int

standard

d)  $f(x) = -x^2 + 5x$

standard

e)  $f(x) = 3x(x-2)$

Factored

f)  $f(x) = 2(x+1)^2 - 3$

vertex

g)  $f(x) = -(x+5)^2$

same as vertex   
  $-(x+5)(x+5)$    
 Factored

h)  $f(x) = -3x^2 + 4$

standard

OR   
  $-3(x+0)^2 + 4$    
 vertex

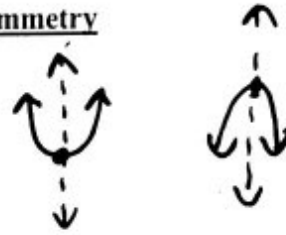
i)  $f(x) = 5x^2$

standard   
 or   
 vertex   
 or   
 factored

#### 4.1 Graphing Quadratic Functions: Vertex and Axis of Symmetry

##### Vocabulary:

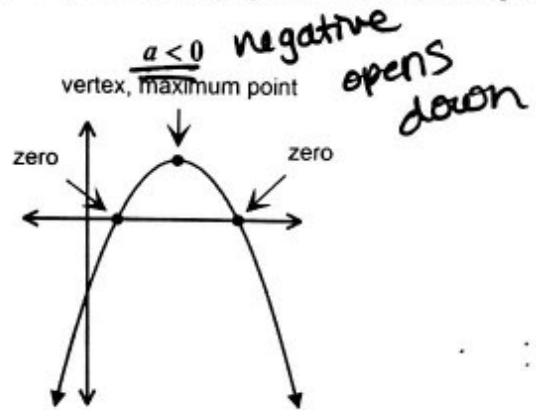
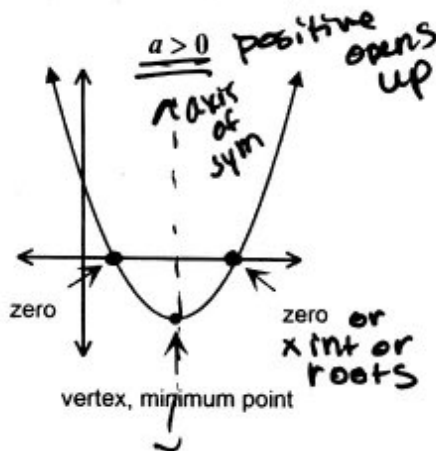
Parabola: The shape of the graph of a quadratic function.



Axis of Symmetry: A line that cuts a parabola in half. If you were to fold a parabola along its axis of symmetry, the two sides would overlap. The equation of the axis of symmetry looks like  $x = \#$ .

Vertex: The "tip" of the parabola – the point at which it changes direction.

- If the parabola opens up ( $a > 0$ ), the vertex is the lowest point on the graph, or the *minimum point*.
- If the parabola opens down ( $a < 0$ ), the vertex is the highest point on the graph, or the *maximum point*.



##### Finding the y-intercept:

1. Plug in 0 for  $x$ .
2. Simplify. Don't forget order of operations.

Vertex Form of a Quadratic Function:  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

Handwritten notes: "opposite" with an arrow pointing to the minus sign before  $h$ , and "axis of sym" with an arrow pointing to  $h$ .

Vertex:  $(h, k)$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = h$

- The sign of  $h$  is the *opposite* of the sign in the equation.  $h$  moves the graph of  $y = x^2$  right and left in the *opposite* direction as the sign in the equation (but the *same* direction as the sign of  $h$  itself).
- The sign of  $k$  is the *same* as the sign in the equation.  $k$  moves the graph of  $y = x^2$  up and down in the *same* direction as the sign in the equation.

○ For  $y = (x - 2)^2 + 5$ ,  $h = 2$  and  $k = 5$ . The vertex is  $(2, 5)$  and the axis of symmetry is  $x = 2$ .  
The graph of  $y = x^2$  moved *right* 2 and *up* 5.

○ For  $y = (x + 3)^2 - 7$ ,  $h = -3$  and  $k = -7$ . The vertex is  $(-3, -7)$  and the axis of symmetry is  $x = -3$ . The graph of  $y = x^2$  moved *left* 3 and *down* 7.

# Vertex Form

$$f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$$

## Direction of Opening:

- Opens up if  $a$  is positive.
- Opens down if  $a$  is negative.

**Examples:** For each function, do the following: 1) State the coordinates of the vertex. 2) State the direction of the opening, that is, whether the parabola opens up or down. 3) Find the  $y$ -intercept. 4) Draw a rough sketch of the graph. 5) Find the Domain and Range

a)  $y = -3(x+2)^2 + 27$

axis of symmetry:

$$x = -2$$

Vertex:  $(-2, 27)$

$y$ -intercept:

Plug in zero for  $x$

$$y = -3(0+2)^2 + 27$$

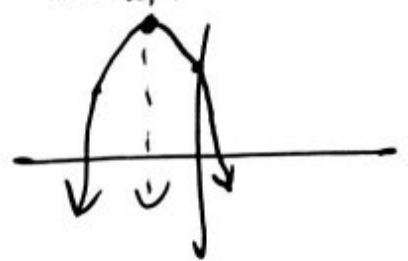
$$-3 \cdot 2^2 + 27$$

$$y = 15 \quad -3 \cdot 4 + 27$$

$$(0, 15) \quad -12 + 27$$

Direction: down

sketch graph:



Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$  Range:  $(-\infty, 27]$

c)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x+4)^2 - 6$

axis of symmetry:

$$x = -4$$

Vertex:  $(-4, -6)$

$y$ -intercept:

Plug in 0 for  $x$

$$\frac{1}{2}(0+4)^2 - 6$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot 4^2 - 6$$

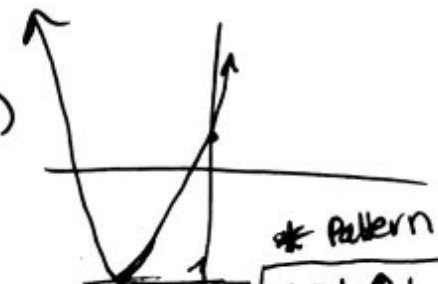
$$\frac{1}{2} \cdot 16 - 6$$

$$8 - 6 \quad y = 2$$

$$(0, 2)$$

Direction: up

sketch graph:



Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$  Range:  $[-6, \infty)$

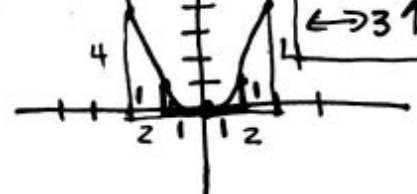
## Vertical Stretch:

- $a$  changes how wide or narrow the graph is.
  - If  $|a| > 1$ , the graph is *narrower* than the graph of  $y = x^2$ .
  - If  $|a| < 1$ , the graph is *wider* than the graph of  $y = x^2$ .

$x$	$y$
1	1
2	4

$x$	$y$
-1	1
0	0

$$y = x^2$$



\* Pattern

$\leftrightarrow 1$	$\uparrow 1$
$\leftrightarrow 2$	$\uparrow 4$
$\leftrightarrow 3$	$\uparrow 9$

- Figure out the exact shape of the graph by making an  $x, y$  table. Always use the vertex as one point. Then choose two  $x$ -values on each side of the vertex to plug into the equation to find the corresponding  $y$ -coordinates.

- A shortcut is to use counting patterns to graph the parabola. Start at the vertex, then count:

From the vertex

- $\leftrightarrow 1, \uparrow a$
- $\leftrightarrow 2, \uparrow 4a$
- $\leftrightarrow 3, \uparrow 9a$ , etc.

If  $a$  is negative, count down instead of up.

◦ For  $y = 2(x-3)^2 - 4$ ,  $a = 2$ .

Start at the vertex  $(3, -4)$ , and count  $\leftrightarrow 1, \uparrow 2; \leftrightarrow 2, \uparrow 8; \leftrightarrow 3, \uparrow 18...$

Examples: Fill in the requested information for each function. Then draw the graph.

a)  $f(x) = (x-1)^2 - 4$

$a = 1$   $h = 1$   $k = -4$

Direction of Opening: up (positive)

Vertex:  $(1, -4)$

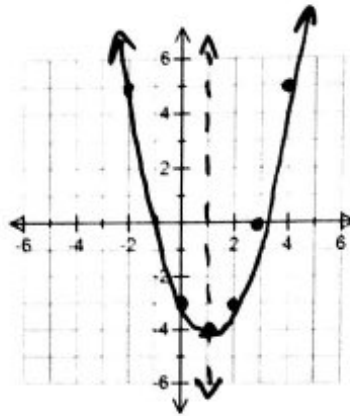
Is it a maximum or minimum point? minimum

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = 1$

y-intercept:  $f(0) = (0-1)^2 - 4 = (-1)^2 - 4 = 1 - 4 = -3$   $(0, -3)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $[-4, \infty)$



From Vertex  
 $\leftrightarrow 1 \uparrow 1$   
 $\leftrightarrow 2 \uparrow 4$   
 $\leftrightarrow 3 \uparrow 9$

b)  $f(x) = -2(x+2)^2 - 1$

$a = -2$   $h = -2$   $k = -1$

Direction of Opening: down

Vertex:  $(-2, -1)$

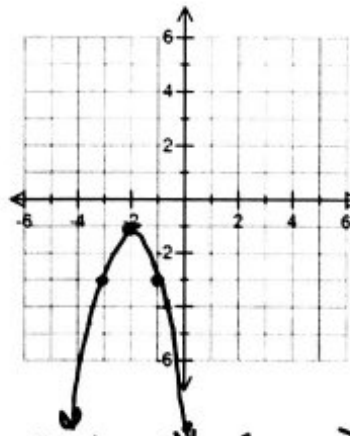
Is it a maximum or minimum point? maximum

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = -2$

y-intercept:  $f(0) = -2(-0+2)^2 - 1 = -2(2)^2 - 1 = -8 - 1 = -9$   $(0, -9)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, -1]$



From Vertex  
 $\leftrightarrow 1 \downarrow 1 \cdot 2 = 2$   
 $\leftrightarrow 2 \downarrow 4 \cdot 2 = 8$

Standard Form:  $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$

- Just like with the other forms, the graph opens up if  $a$  is positive and opens down if  $a$  is negative.
- Vertex:
  - The  $x$ -coordinate of the vertex is  $\frac{-b}{2a}$ . (The opposite of  $b$  divided by 2 times  $a$ )
  - To find the  $y$ -coordinate, plug the  $x$ -coordinate into the original equation.

# Standard Form $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ *vertex*

Examples: Fill in the requested information for each function. Then draw the graph.

a)  $f(x) = x^2 - 8x + 17$  *vertex*  $a = 1$   $b = -8$   $c = 17$

Direction of Opening: *up*

Vertex: *How to find vertex in standard form*  
 $(4, 1)$   $x = \frac{-b}{2a} = \frac{8}{2(1)} = \frac{8}{2} = 4$

$$f(4) = 4^2 - 8(4) + 17$$

$$16 - 32 + 17 = 1$$

Is it a maximum or minimum point? *min*

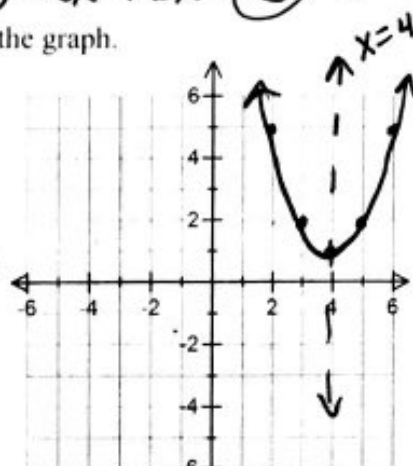
What is the maximum/minimum value?  $1$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = 4$

y-intercept:  $(0, 17)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $[1, \infty)$



$\leftrightarrow 1$	$\uparrow 1$
$\leftrightarrow 2$	$\uparrow 4$
$\leftrightarrow 3$	$\uparrow 9$

*y = x^2*

b)  $y = -2x^2 + 4x + 0$  *down* *vertex*  $a = -2$   $b = 4$   $c = 0$  *mult. pattern by*

Direction of Opening: *down*

Vertex:  $x = \frac{-b}{2a} = \frac{-4}{2(-2)} = \frac{-4}{-4} = 1$

$(1, 2)$

$$y = -2(1)^2 + 4(1)$$

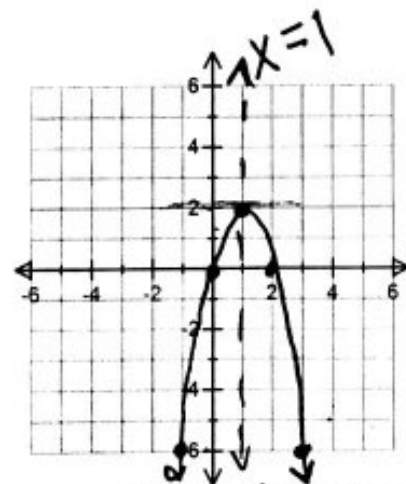
$$-2 + 4 = 2$$

Is it a maximum or minimum point? *max*

What is the maximum/minimum value?  $2$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = 1$

y-intercept:  $(0, 0)$



$\leftrightarrow 1$	$\downarrow 1 \cdot -2 = -2$
$\leftrightarrow 2$	$\downarrow 4 \cdot -2 = -8$
$\leftrightarrow 3$	$\downarrow 9 \cdot -2 = -18$

**Factored Form:**  $f(x) = a(x - p)(y - q)$

- Like other forms,  $a$  is the vertical stretch
- $(p, 0)$  and  $(q, 0)$  are the x-intercepts (zeroes). The x-value of the vertex is exactly half-way between them
- Evaluate the function at  $x = \frac{p+q}{2}$  to find the y value of the vertex.

Factors tell me the x int.  $f(x) = a(x-p)(x-q)$

Examples: Fill in the requested information for each function. Then draw the graph.

a)  $f(x) = 1(x-5)(x+1)$   $p = 5$   $q = -1$   
 direction of opening:  $\uparrow$  **up**  
 vertex:  $x = 2$  **How to find vertex in factored form**  
 $x = \frac{5+(-1)}{2} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$   
 $f(2) = (2-5)(2+1) = (-3)(3) = -9$

vertex:  $(2, -9)$

direction of opening:  $\uparrow$  **up**

**opposites**

**x int.**

$x = \frac{p+q}{2}$

$f(2) = (2-5)(2+1) = (-3)(3) = -9$

Is it max or min: **minimum**

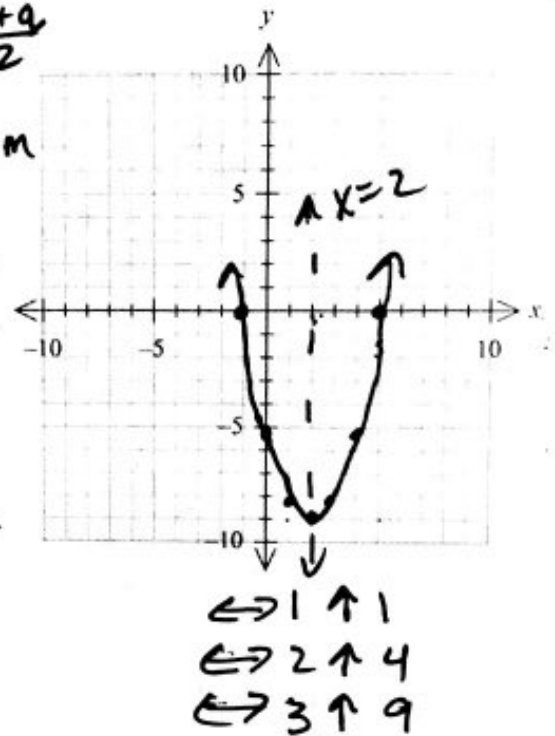
Axis of Symmetry:  $x = 2$

y-intercept: **Plug in zero for x or  $(0, -5)$  look at graph**

Domain:

Range:

$(-\infty, \infty)$   
 $[-9, \infty)$



b)  $y = -\frac{1}{2}(x+3)(x-1)$   $p = -3$   $q = 1$   
 direction of opening:  $\downarrow$  **down**  
 vertex:  $x = -1$  **(1/2 way between x int)**  
 $x = \frac{-3+1}{2} = \frac{-2}{2} = -1$   $(-1, 2)$   
 $y = -\frac{1}{2}(-1+3)(-1-1) = 2$

direction of opening:  $\downarrow$  **down**

vertex:  $x = -1$  **(1/2 way between x int)**

$x = \frac{-3+1}{2} = \frac{-2}{2} = -1$   $(-1, 2)$

$y = -\frac{1}{2}(-1+3)(-1-1) = 2$

Is it max or min: **max**

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = -1$

y-intercept:  $(0, 1.5)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, 2]$

