

Standard Form for a Quadratic Function: $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$

quadratic term: ax^2 linear term: bx constant term: c

Graphing a Quadratic Function from Standard Form:

1. Rewrite in standard form if necessary and identify "a", "b", & "c".
2. Find and plot the axis of symmetry: $x = -\frac{b}{2a}$
3. Find and plot the vertex: $(-\frac{b}{2a}, f(-\frac{b}{2a}))$
4. Find and plot the y-intercept: $(0, c)$
5. Parabolas are symmetric: graph the point opposite the y-intercept.

Example #1: $f(x) = 2 - 4x + x^2$ $a=1$ $b=-4$ $c=2$

Rewrite in standard form: $f(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2$

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

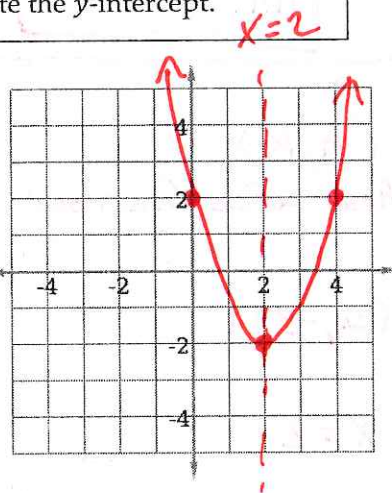
Vertex: The x-coordinate is: 2 $x=2$
The y-coordinate is $f(2) = -2$

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

y-intercept: $(0, 2)$

point symmetric with the y-intercept: $(4, 2)$

Domain: All Real #'s Range: $[-2, \infty)$ or $\{y / y \geq -2\}$



Example #2: Graph $f(x) = -2x^2 + 8x - 5$

Axis of symmetry: $x = 2$ $x = -\frac{b}{2a} = \frac{-8}{2(-2)} = 2$

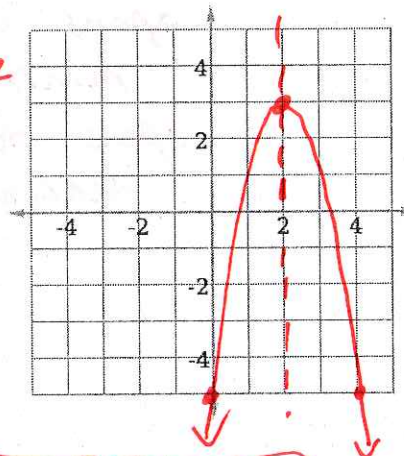
Vertex: The x-coordinate is: 2 $(2, 3)$
The y-coordinate is $f(2) = 3$

$-2(2)^2 + 8(2) - 5 = -8 + 16 - 5 = 3$

y-intercept: $(0, -5)$

point symmetric with the y-intercept: $(4, -5)$

Domain: All Real #'s Range: $(-\infty, 3]$ or $\{y / y \leq 3\}$



$$a=1 \quad b=4 \quad c=-1$$

Example #3: Graph $f(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$

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

Axis of symmetry:

$$x = -2$$

Vertex: The x-coordinate is:

$$-2$$

$$(-2, -5)$$

The y-coordinate is $f(-2)$:

$$-5$$

$$(-2)^2 + 4(-2) - 1 = -5$$

y-intercept:

$$(0, -1)$$

point symmetric with the y-intercept:

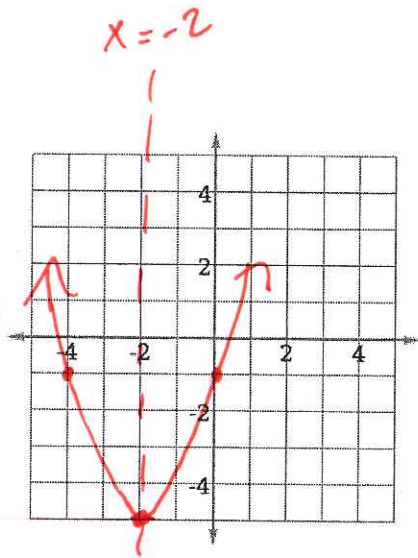
$$(-4, -1)$$

Domain:

All Real #'s

Range:

$$[-5, \infty) \text{ or } \{y/y \geq -5\}$$



Ex #4 **Vertex Form of a Quadratic Function:** $f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$

Vertex: (h, k)

$a =$ how wide/narrow & whether graph opens up or down. $(a > 0)$ $(a < 0)$

EX #3: $f(x) = 2(x-2)^2 - 3$

Vertex: $(2, -3)$

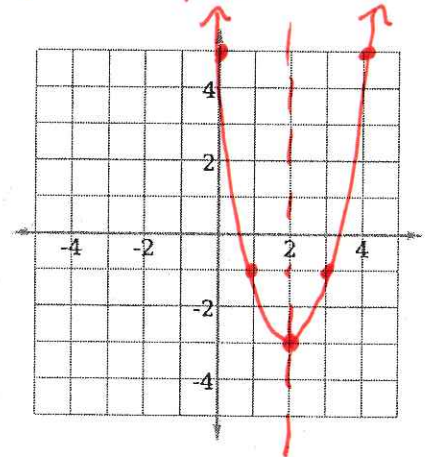
Axis of symmetry:

$$x = 2$$

Domain:

Range:

2	-3
0	5
4	5
3	-1
1	-1



If a is positive, then opens up ↗ ↘

The vertex will be a minimum. We saw this in Example # 1 & 3

If a is negative, then opens down ↘ ↗

The vertex will be a maximum. We saw this in Example # 2.

The domain of a quadratic function will always be All Real #'s

The range of a quadratic function will depend on the vertex & whether it opens up or down.