

Section 2.3 Analyzing the Graphs of Functions

The **graph of a function f** is the set of all ordered pairs (x,y) that satisfy the equation

$$y = f(x)$$

Satisfy means the function equals y when input is x .

Note: the strict definition says the graph is a set of ordered pairs, but we usually think of the graph as the picture we would see if we could graph this infinite set.

The set is made up of points (input, output) or $(x, f(x))$

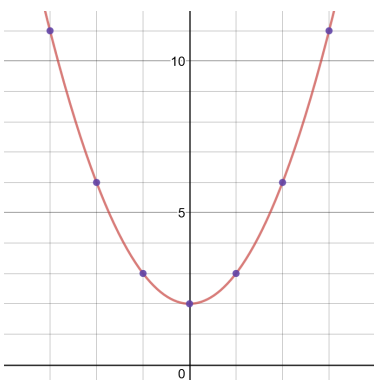
Oct 28-1:35 PM

Mar 19-11:17 AM

$$y = f(x) = x^2 + 2$$

$$y = x^2 + 2$$

x	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
$f(x)$	11	6	3	2	3	6	11



The "graph" of the function f .

One way to draw a graph is by *point plotting*, which means plotting several of the points that satisfy the function and trying to draw a line through them.

This is a poor method and is old-fashioned.

Using technology, we can easily see an accurate graph.

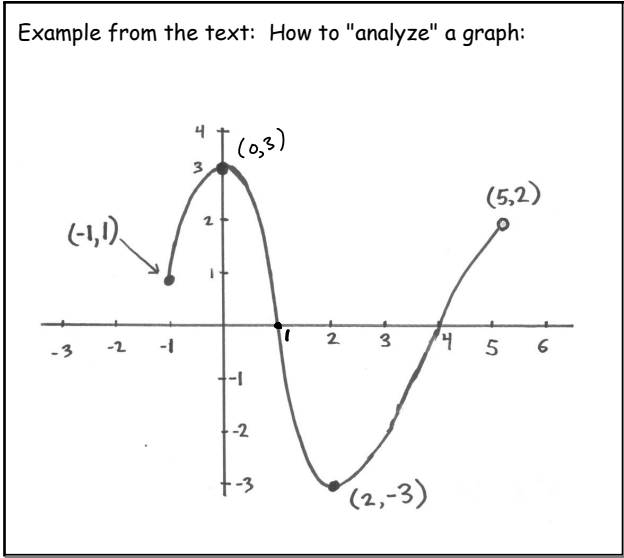
We will use [Desmos](#).

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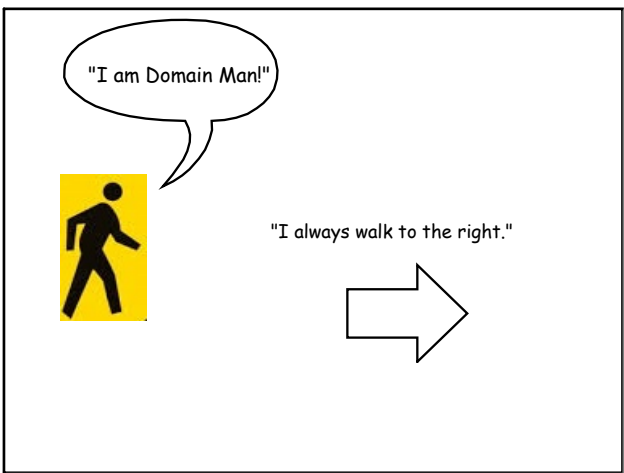
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Important note: This section in the text is not about how to draw the graph of a function from its formula.

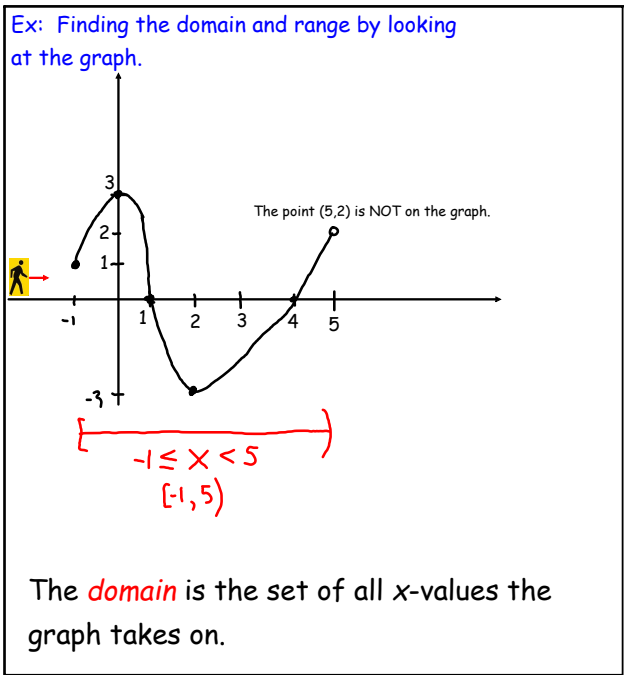
Rather, it is about identifying features of the graph and analyzing the behavior of the function based on these features.



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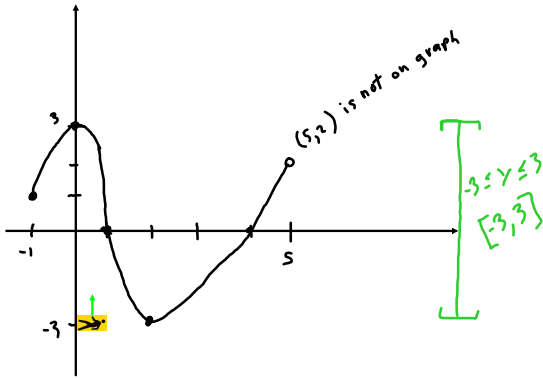


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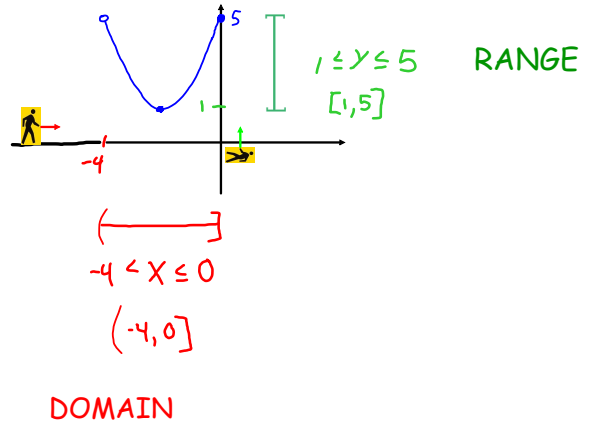
Ex: Finding the domain and range by looking at the graph.



The **range** is the set of all y-values the graph takes on.

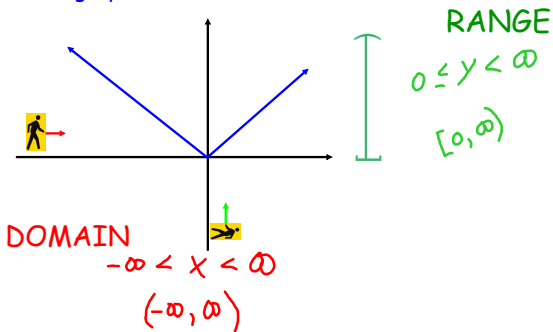
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Ex: Finding the domain and range by looking at the graph.



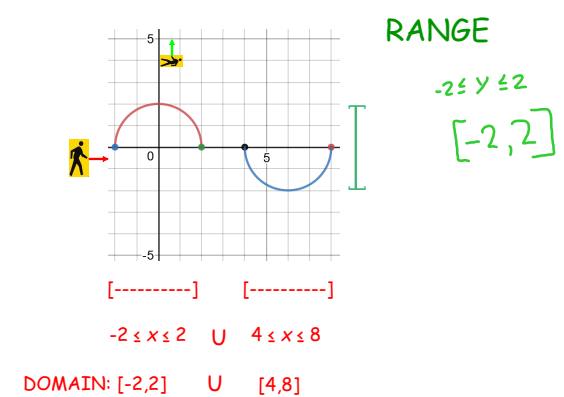
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Ex: Finding the domain and range by looking at the graph.



Mar 19-11:48 AM

Ex: Finding the domain and range by looking at the graph.



Mar 19-11:48 AM

Q: Does this table describe a function from x to y ?
or, "is y a function of x ?"

x (input)	1	2	3	1
y (output)	8	9	10	11

x	y
1	8
2	11
3	9
1	10

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Consider a possible graph where one part *lies above* another part.....

x (input)	1	2	3	1
y (output)	8	9	10	11

x	y
1	8
2	11
3	9
1	10

If any part of a graph lies above another part, that means there are two points on the graph with same x -coordinate. That means one output has **two different outputs**.

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The Vertical Line Test
If a vertical line passes across a graph and touches it at multiple points at once, then y is **NOT** a function of x .

Note: "multiple" means "more than one"

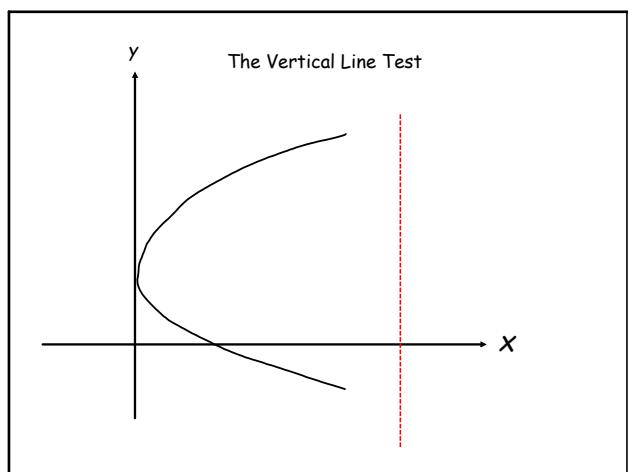
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Or, in other words....

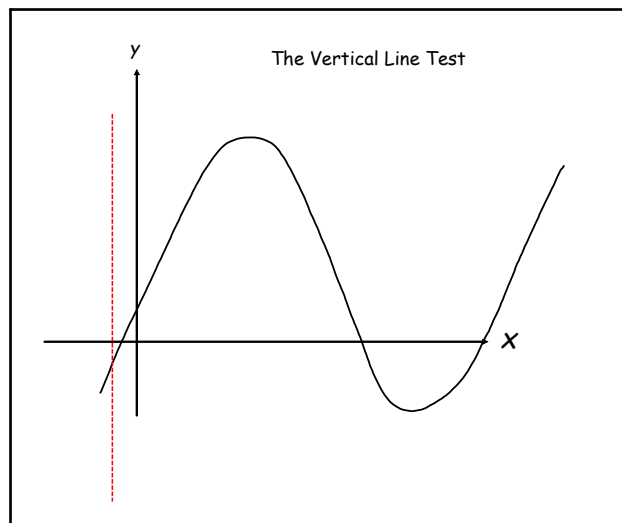
The Vertical Line Test

On the graph of any function where " y is function of x ", or $y = f(x)$, it will be true that the vertical line will never intersect the graph at more than one point at a time.

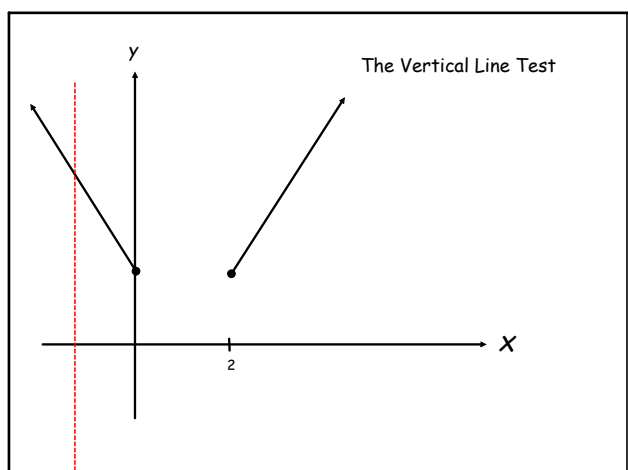
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Definition:
 If $f(c) = 0$ then $x = c$ is called a **zero of f** .
 (or whatever the name of the function may be.)
 The zeros of a function are just the x -values where the graph has an x -intercept.

Oct 25-3:49 PM

Finding the zeros of a function algebraically

a) $g(x) = 2x + 4$

~~$g(x) = 2x + 4$~~

$0 = 2x + 4$

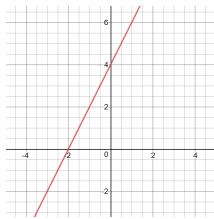
$-4 = 2x$

$-2 = \frac{-4}{2} = x$

check: $g(x) = 2x + 4$
 $g(-2) = 2(-2) + 4 = 0$

$x = -2$ is the zero of g .

definition
 To find the zeros, set the definition equal to 0 and solve.



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Finding the zeros of a function algebraically

b) find the zeros of $f(x) = x^2 - 2x$

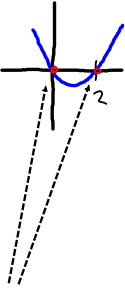
$0 = x^2 - 2x$

$0 = x(x - 2)$

$x = 0$ $x = 2$

check: $f(0) = 0^2 - 2(0) = 0$
 $f(2) = 2^2 - 2(2) = 0$

$x = 0, 2$ are the zeros of f ...also known as x-intercepts.



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Finding the zeros of a function algebraically

c) $g(t) = 2t^2 + 4$

$0 = 2t^2 + 4$

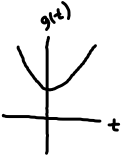
$-4 = 2t^2$

$-2 = t^2$

$\sqrt{-2} = \sqrt{t^2}$

$\sqrt{-2} = t$ "g has NO zeros"

\downarrow
 that's NOT a real number!!



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Finding the zeros of a function algebraically

d) $h(x) = \sqrt{25 - x^2}$

$0 = \sqrt{25 - x^2}$

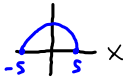
$0^2 = (\sqrt{25 - x^2})^2$

$0 = 25 - x^2$

$x^2 = 25$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{25}$

$x = \pm 5$ are the zeros of h



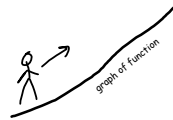
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Intervals of:

Increasing

Decreasing

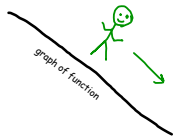
Constant



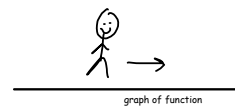
INCREASING means
y gets bigger as x gets bigger.
"going uphill"

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DECREASING means
y gets smaller as x gets bigger.
"going downhill"



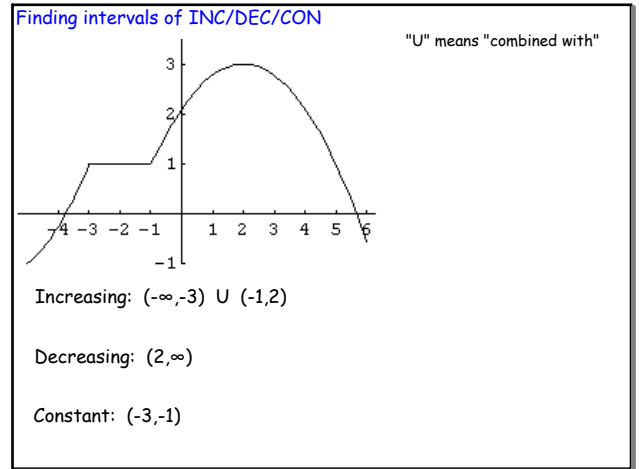
CONSTANT means the y-values do not change.
"a horizontal line"

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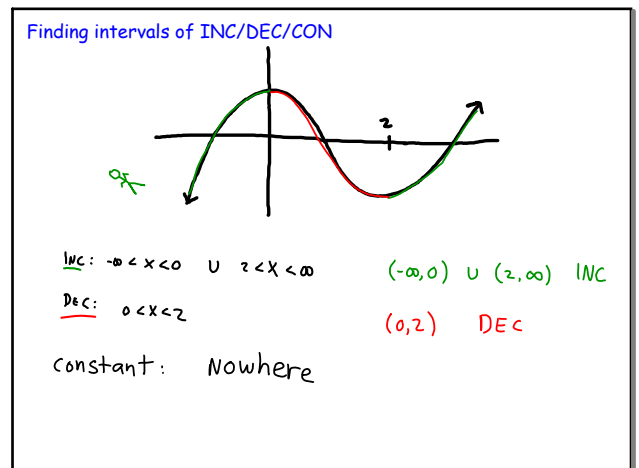
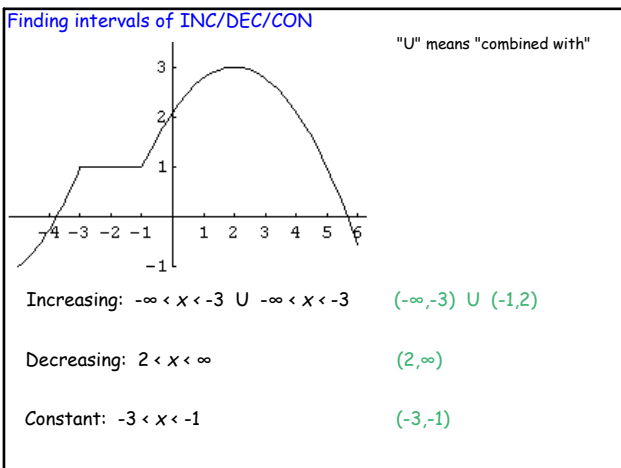
When you specify the intervals where a graph is INCREASING/DECREASING/CONSTANT you should always use the *strict inequality* symbol: $<$

Do not use the *less than or equal to* symbol: \leq



Apr 10-11:37 AM

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Oct 19-1:41 PM

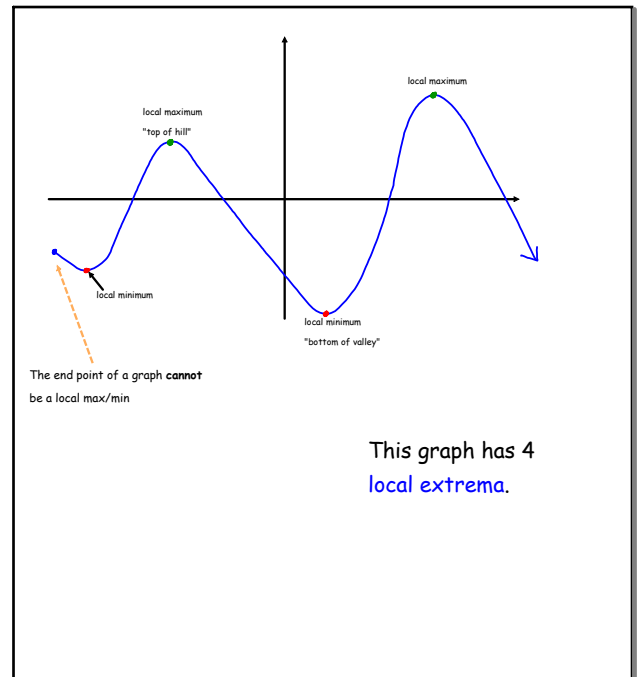
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maxima and minima

Note: "*maxima*" is plural of maximum.

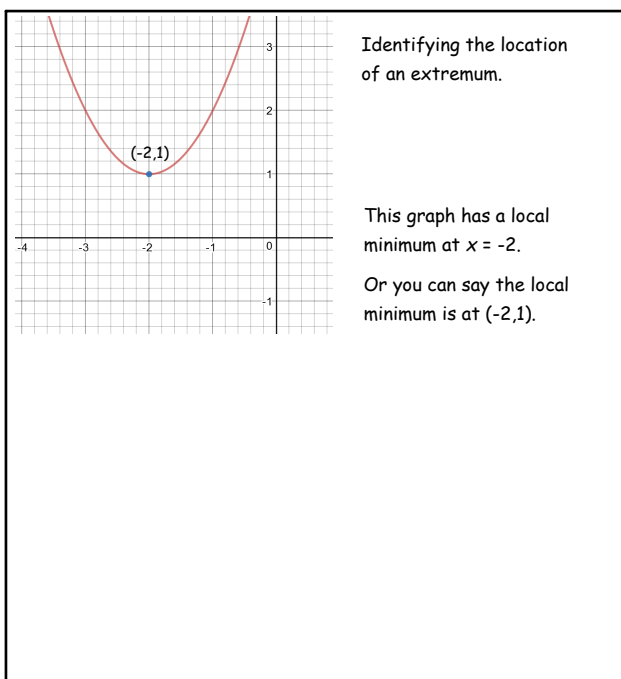
"*minima*" is plural of minimum.

Together, maxima or minima are called "*extrema*."



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Apr 9-10:59 AM



A graph can have several types of symmetry:

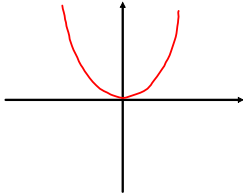
- 1) *y*-axis symmetry
- 2) *x*-axis symmetry
- 3) origin symmetry

Apr 9-10:57 AM

Oct 28-1:38 PM

1) y-axis symmetry

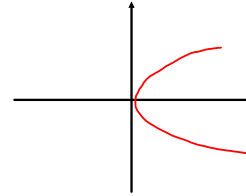
The graph is a "reflection over the y-axis." This means folding the graph on the y-axis will cause the two halves to match up.



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2) x-axis symmetry

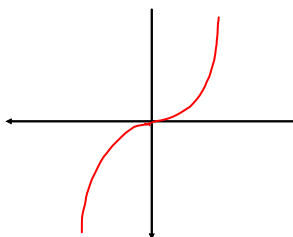
The graph is a "reflection over the x-axis." This means folding the graph on the x-axis will cause the two halves to match up.



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3) origin symmetry

Turning the graph upside down will result in the same graph.



Oct 28-1:41 PM

Let's look at the letters of the alphabet and consider what kind of symmetry each exhibits.

Keep in mind the symmetry depends on where the letter is placed in the Cartesian Plane.

Also, the letter might not actually be the graph of a function, but it still could have symmetry.

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<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM

<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM

<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
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<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM

<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM

<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM

	y - axis symmetry
	x - axis symmetry
	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM

	y - axis symmetry
	x - axis symmetry
	origin symmetry

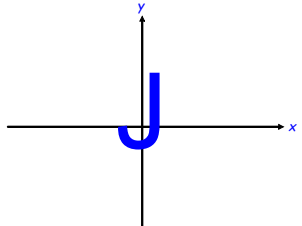
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	y - axis symmetry
	x - axis symmetry
	origin symmetry

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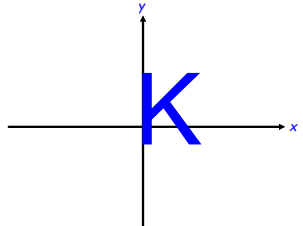
	y - axis symmetry
	x - axis symmetry
	origin symmetry

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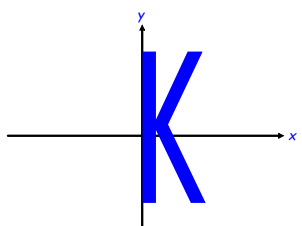
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<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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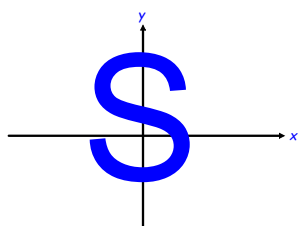
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<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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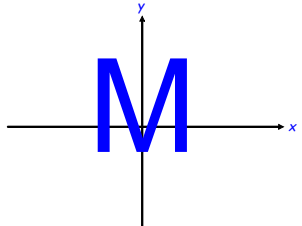
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<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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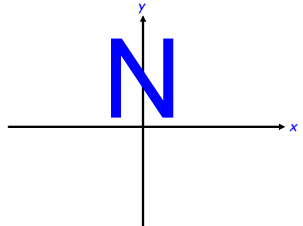
<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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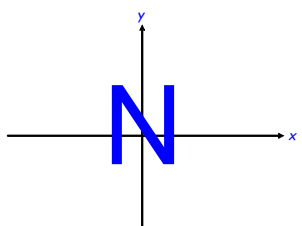
<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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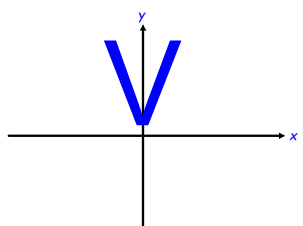
<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

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<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM



<input type="checkbox"/>	y - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	x - axis symmetry
<input type="checkbox"/>	origin symmetry

Mar 22-11:46 AM

EVEN and ODD functions

If $f(-x) = f(x)$ then f is an EVEN function.

"Opposite inputs give same output."

If $f(-x) = -f(x)$ then f is an ODD function.

"Opposite inputs give opposite output."

An alternate way of describing an ODD function:

If $f(x) = y$

then $f(-x) = -y$

Oct 28-1:50 PM

Two simple examples:

Even function $f(x) = x^2$

x	-2	-1	0	1	2
f(x)	4	1	0	1	4

"Opposite inputs give same output."

Odd function $f(x) = x^3$

x	-2	-1	0	1	2
f(x)	-8	-1	0	1	8

"Opposite inputs give opposite output."

Nov 5-8:33 AM

Determining if a function is even or odd

Step One: find $f(-x) = \text{expression}$

Step Two: Compare the expression to $f(x)$ and $-f(x)$

If $f(-x) = f(x)$ then f is an EVEN function.

If $f(-x) = -f(x)$ then f is an ODD function.

If f is not even or odd, then it is NEITHER.

Oct 19-1:58 PM

Is this function even or odd ??

$$f(x) = x^4 + x^2$$

Step One: find $f(-x)$

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

simplify using algebra:

$$f(-x) = (-x)(-x)(-x)(-x) + (-x)(-x)$$

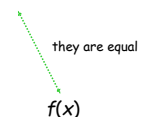
$$f(-x) = (x)(x)(x)(x) + (x)(x)$$

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

Step Two:

Since $f(-x) = f(x)$

f is an EVEN function.



Oct 19-1:58 PM

Is this function *even* or *odd* ??

$$f(x) = x^3 + x$$

Step One: find $f(-x)$

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

$$f(-x) = (-x)(-x)(-x) + (-x)$$

$$f(-x) = -(x)(x)(x) - x$$

$$f(-x) = -x^3 - x$$

Step Two:

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

Since $f(-x) = -f(x)$
 f is an **ODD** function.

Oct 19-1:58 PM

Is this function *even* or *odd* ??

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

Step One: find $f(-x)$

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

$$f(-x) = (-x)(-x)(-x) + 1$$

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

Step Two:

f is not an **ODD** function. So, $f(-x) = -x^3 + 1 \neq f(x) = x^3 + 1$ Not EVEN

f is not an **EVEN** function. and $f(-x) = -x^3 + 1 \neq -f(x) = -x^3 - 1$

You can say "NEITHER!"

Not ODD

Oct 19-1:58 PM

Determining Symmetry from the formula:

Given a *formula* for a function, the type of symmetry can be determined using algebra.

Procedure:

Find the formula for $f(-x)$ and see if it equals $f(x)$ or $-f(x)$ or neither.

Useful facts:

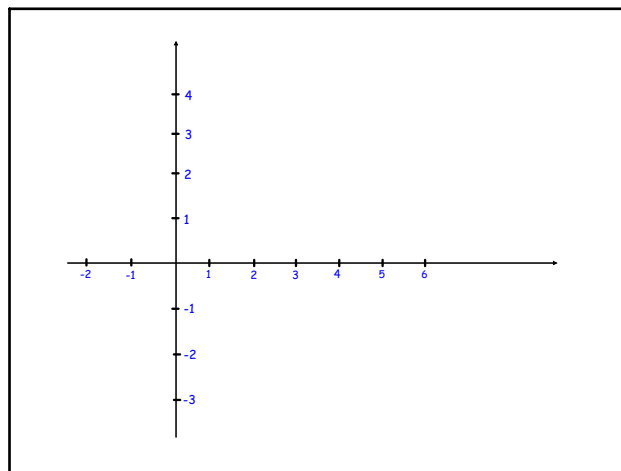
- The graph of an even function will have y -axis symmetry.
- The graph of an odd function will have origin symmetry.

Mar 16-10:56 AM

The End.

Oct 19-2:30 PM

Junk Yard.



Nov 1-1:29 PM

Mar 19-11:25 AM