

1.4 Inverses: Part I

The inverse of a relation can be found by interchanging the x and y coordinates of the original function.

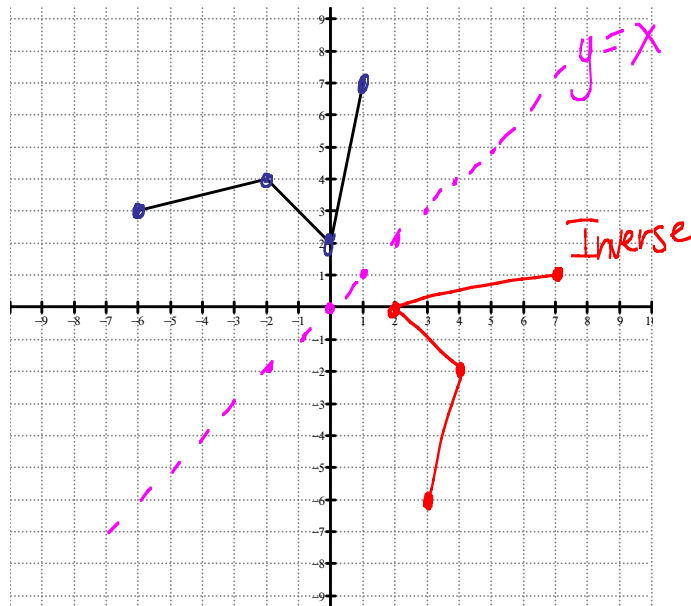
$$(x, y) \rightarrow (y, x)$$

For every (x, y) of a relation, there is an ordered pair (y, x) on the inverse of that relation.

Ex. #2: Given the graph of the relation below sketch the graph of its inverse.

Original	
-6	3
-2	4
0	2
1	7

Inverse	
3	-6
4	-2
2	0
7	1



Ex. #3: On the above graph sketch the line $y = x$.

What do you notice about the graphs with respect to the line $y = x$?

They are reflections of each other over $y = x$

Ex. #4: Is the graph of the original relation a function? How do you know?

Yes. Original relation is a function
One y-value for each x-value

Is the graph of the inverse a function? How could you tell without graphing the inverse whether it would be a function?

No, Not a function.

Some x-values that have 2 different y-values.

The graph of a relation and its inverse are Reflections of each other in the line $y = x$.

Horizontal Line Test:

- A test used to determine whether the graph of an inverse relation will be a function.
- If a horizontal line intersects a graph in more than one place then the inverse of the relation is not a function.

The inverse of a function $y = f(x)$ may be written in the form $x = f(y)$.

When the inverse of a function is itself a function then we use the notation

if the inverse is a function
the the inverse can be written as $f^{-1}(x)$

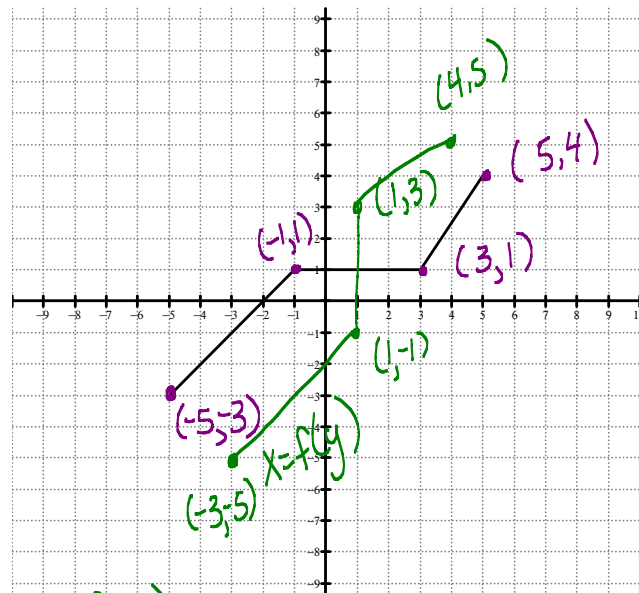
Ex. #5: Consider the function $y = f(x)$ sketched below:

- (a) Without graphing will the inverse graph be a function?

Horizontal line test
Not a function

- (b) Sketch the graph of $x = f(y)$.

- (c) State the domain and range for both the original and the inverse.

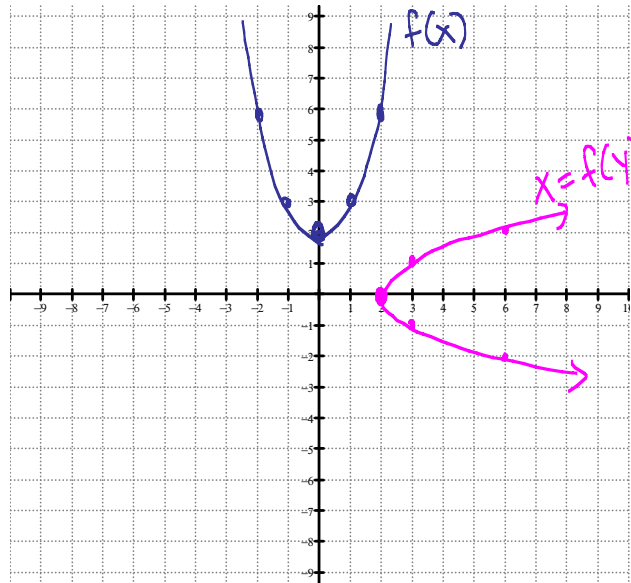


$y = f(x)$
 $\{x: -5 \leq x \leq 5 \quad x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
 $\{y: -3 \leq y \leq 4 \quad y \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$x = f(y)$
 $\{x: -3 \leq x \leq 4 \quad x \in \mathbb{R}\}$
 $\{y: -5 \leq y \leq 5 \quad y \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Ex. #6: Consider the function $f(x) = x^2 + 2$.

(a) Graph the function $f(x)$. Is the inverse of $f(x)$ a function?



The inverse of $f(x)$ is not a function. $f(x)$ fails the horizontal line test.

(b) Graph the inverse of $f(x)$

(c) State the domain and range of $f(x)$ and its inverse.

$f(x)$ $\{x : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$\{y : y \geq 2, y \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$x = f(y)$ $\{x : x \geq 2, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$\{y : y \in \mathbb{R}\}$

(d) Restrict the domain of $f(x)$ so that its inverse will be a function.

$x \geq 0$ we only get the right side of parabola.

(e) Sketch $f(x)$ with its restricted domain and its inverse.

$f(x) = x^2 + 2, x \geq 0$

