

Quadratic Equation/Relation: a degree two equation

Degree 2: highest exponent is two

Standard form of the quadratic equation: $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

examples: $y = 3x^2 - 2x + 5$ $y = x^2$ $y = -2x^2 + x$ $y = 3x^2 - 5$

Vertex: the “turning” point of graph. It is the lowest(minimum) or the highest(maximum) point on the parabola

Finding vertex, if equation is in standard form:

1) calculate $\frac{-b}{2a}$ (this is x-coordinate of vertex, ie $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$)

2) sub in calculated value for “x” and solve for y(this is the y coordinate of the vertex)

Axis of symmetry: the vertical line that passes through the vertex of a parabola that shows reflective symmetry(how the left and right side are mirror images in line of symmetry)

*eq. of axis of sym
x = avg. of x co-ordinates of mirror points
(and x co-ordinate of vertex)*

Equation will be: $x = \text{“x value of vertex”}$ or $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$ (when in standard form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$)

How each coefficient (“a” and “b”) or constant (“c”) affects graph, when $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

“a” - i) if $a > 0$, then graph opens up (vertex is a min.) ii) if $a < 0$, then graph opens down (vertex is a max.)

“b” - if it is changed, then it affects the line of symmetry (and affects vertex)

“c” - if it is changed, then it affects the y-intercept [is the y intercept $(0, c)$] (and affects vertex)

Domain: x is an element of the real numbers $D = \{x \mid x \in R\}$...set notation $(-\infty, \infty)$... interval notation

Range: i) $y \geq$ y-value of the vertex, if graph turns up (if $a > 0$) $R = \{y \mid y \geq y_v, y \in R\}$ OR $[y_v, \infty)$

ii) $y \leq$ y-value of the vertex, if graph turns down (if $a < 0$) $R = \{y \mid y \leq y_v, y \in R\}$ OR $(-\infty, y_v]$
(Where “ y_v ” is the y value of the vertex)

Zero Product Rule: If $ab = 0$ then $a = 0$ or $b = 0$ (if a product is zero, then a factor must equal zero)

Mirror Points: two points that are equidistant from the axis of symmetry of a parabola (will have same y co-ordinates)

Partial Factors: Factoring the “x” parts of standard form to find the “mirror point” of the y-intercept (and y-intercept)

ex) $y = x^2 + 4x - 2$

What makes the x (factored) parts = 0?

$y = (x^2 + 4x) - 2$ (Set this part equal to 0, and solve)

$y = x(x + 4) - 2$ So $x = 0$ or $x = -4$, make the “x part” = 0

Graphing using standard form:

1) find y-int. $(0, c)$

2) partial factor the “x stuff” [factoring out a GCF of x is enough]

3) set partial factors = 0, and solve for “x” this gives “x co-ordinate of y-int(which we knew) and the x coordinate of mirror point. ... i.e. $(0, c)$ and (other “x”, c)

4) average these x values....this gives axis of sym ($x = \text{avg}$) AND the x-coordinate of vertex (avg , y)

5) sub in “x” of vertex and find y (write vertex point (x, y))

6) plot points (y-int, mirror of y-int, and vertex) and sketch parabola

In general: $y = ax^2 + bx + c$

$$\begin{aligned} x(ax + b) &= 0 \\ x = 0 \text{ or } ax + b &= 0 \\ ax &= -b \\ x &= \frac{-b}{a} \end{aligned}$$

y-int $(0, c)$, mirror point $\left(\frac{-b}{a}, c\right)$

When equation is in standard form

Explanation of why the formulas for axis of symmetry and finding x-coordinate of vertex works(how derived or made)

Using this to find axis of symmetry: $x = \text{average of the x-coordinates of any mirror points}$ use “0” and “ $\frac{-b}{a}$ ”

$$x = \text{avg.} = \frac{0 + \frac{-b}{a}}{2} = \frac{\frac{-b}{a}}{2} = \frac{-b}{a} \div 2 = \frac{-b}{a} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{-b}{2a}$$

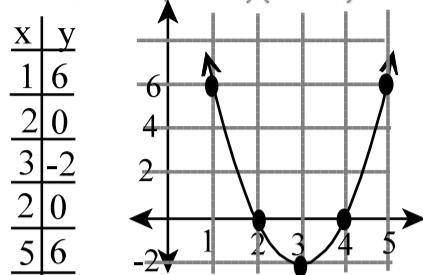
*equation of axis of sym
 $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$
(and x coordinate of vertex)*

**sub in x and find y of vertex.... $f\left(\frac{-b}{2a}\right)$

3 quick points if in $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ form: y-int and mirror are $(0, c)$ and $\left(\frac{-b}{a}, c\right)$, vertex $\left(\frac{-b}{2a}, f\left(\frac{-b}{2a}\right)\right)$

Factored Form of the Quadratic Function: $y = a(x-r)(x-s)$ or $f(x) = a(x-r)(x-s)$

ex) $y = 2(x-2)(x-4)$

x-intercepts (2, 0) and (4, 0) or x-int = 2 and 4 (assumption is $y = 0$)

Notice: 2 and 4 are the values subtracted in the equation

So, in the factored form “r” and “s” are the x-intercepts

Finding line of symmetry: $x = \text{avg. of x-intercepts} = \frac{r+s}{2}$

Finding the x-intercepts using factored form

- 1) sub in $y = 0$
- 2) apply the zero product rule to find
- 3) write x-intercepts as points $(r, 0)$ and $(s, 0)$

Finding vertex:

- 1) find x-intercepts
- 2) average the x-intercepts $\frac{r+s}{2}$
- 3) sub in x and find y

vertex

$$\left(\frac{r+s}{2}, f\left(\frac{r+s}{2} \right) \right)$$

Graphing using factored form:

- 1) find x intercepts (see steps above)
- 2) find vertex (see steps above)
- 3) plot x intercepts and vertex and sketch graph

“ZEROS” = what x values make the function = “0”....the “x-intercepts” (sub $y = 0$ and solve for x)Finding equation in factored form if given graph:
[need: two x-intercepts and one other point]

1) write $y = a(x-r)(x-s)$

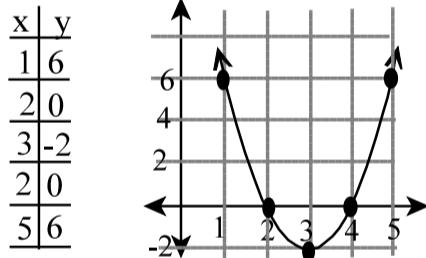
- 2) sub in x-intercepts and simplify each bracket
- 3) sub in any other point and calculate “a”
- 4) make sure you write the final version of the equation
(only variables should be x and y)

for graph above: x-int(2,0)(4,0) and pt.(5,6)

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \dots y &= a(x-r)(x-s) \\ 2. \dots y &= a(x-2)(x-4) \\ 3. \dots 6 &= a(5-2)(5-4) \dots \text{subbed}(5,6) \\ 2 &= a \\ 4. \dots y &= 2(x-2)(x-4) \end{aligned}$$

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

$y = 2(x-3)^2 - 2$



Vertex is (3, -2)

3...what makes bracket (partial factor) zero...the “h”
-2... the constant added to bracket in this form...the “k”

Graphing using Vertex form(some quick methods): (don’t forget you can always sub in x’s and find y’s, to always graph)

Method 1

- 1) note vertex (h, k)
- 2) sub in an “x” left and right of vertex to find two more points
- 3) plot points and sketch graph

Method 2

- 1) note vertex (h, k)
- 2) Use “a” like a slope and plot mirror points one unit left and right of vertex
- 3) sketch graph

Method 3

- 1) note vertex (h, k)
- 2) find y-int (sub $x = 0$)
- 3) note mirror point of y-int.
- 4) sketch graph

Finding equation in vertex form if given graph:

[need: vertex and one other point]

1) write $y = a(x-h)^2 + k$

- 2) sub in “h” and “k” of vertex (and simplify if necessary)
- 3) sub in any other point and calculate “a”
- 4) make sure you write the final version of the equation
(only variables should be x and y)

x	y
$h-1$	$k+a$
h	k
$h+1$	$k+a$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{for graph above: } V: (3, -2) \text{ and pt. } (5, 6) \\ 1. \dots y &= a(x-h)^2 + k \\ 2. \dots y &= a(x-3)^2 + -2 \\ &= a(x-3)^2 - 2 \\ 3. \dots 6 &= a(5-3)^2 - 2 \dots \text{subbed}(5,6) \\ 2 &= a \\ 4. \dots y &= 2(x-3)^2 - 2 \end{aligned}$$

Word Problems:

- 1) set up an equation in standard , factored or vertex form ...READ CAREFULLY...sketching situation may help
based on using previous/application of knowledge; area , volume , cost, etc...too many possibilities to list all
- 2) max/min problems need a vertex to be found...see notes on finding vertex
- 3) when done, re-read question to see if you answered it.