

**When given a quadratic function you can start by factoring to find the zeros.**

Example 1: The first step to finding the roots of a quadratic function is to **factor the quadratic**.

\*Remember it must be equal to zero!

$$y = x^2 + 3x + 2 \quad \rightarrow \quad y = (x + 1)(x + 2)$$

Once the quadratic is factored, the next step is to find the roots.

Roots are found when  $y = 0$ . Therefore we must set the two binomials equal to 0.

$$\begin{array}{l} (x + 1) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (x + 2) = 0 \\ \frac{-1 \quad -1}{x = -1} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{-2 \quad -2}{x = -2} \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{This allows us to find } x \text{ when } y \text{ is zero} \\ \text{(our } x\text{-intercepts).} \\ \text{These are our two roots.} \end{array}$$

We can write these roots as ordered pairs  $(-1, 0)$  and  $(-2, 0)$  or as a solution set  $\{-2, -1\}$ .

**To find the vertex of a quadratic:**

You can use the expression:  $\frac{-b}{2a}$  to find the  $x$  value of the vertex .

\*Remember the equation must be in the standard form,  $y = Ax^2 + Bx + C$ .

**Example:**

Find the vertex of the parabola  $y = 3x^2 + 12x - 12$ .

Here,  $a = 3$  and  $b = 12$ . So, the  $x$ -coordinate of the vertex is:  $\frac{-12}{2(3)} = \frac{-12}{6} = -2$

Substituting  $(x = -2)$  in the original equation to get the  $y$ -coordinate, we get:

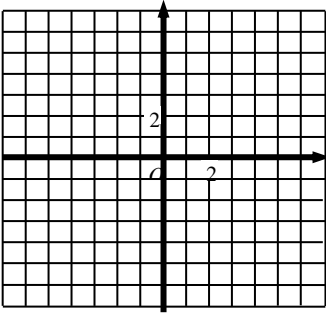
$$y = 3(-2)^2 + 12(-2) - 12$$

$$y = -24$$

So, the vertex of the parabola is at  $(-2, -24)$ .

Find the solutions by factoring, sketch each parabola and identify the parts of the quadratic.

1.  $x^2 - 5 = 4x$

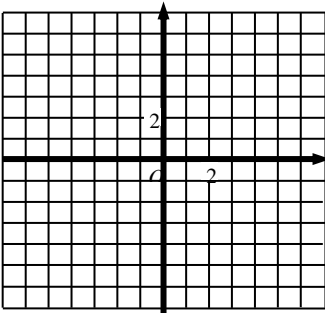


Solution Set: \_\_\_\_\_

Vertex \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum or Minimum point? \_\_\_\_\_

Equation of the Line of Symmetry \_\_\_\_\_

2.  $x^2 - 1 = 0$

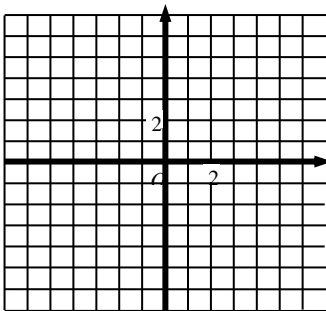


Solution Set: \_\_\_\_\_

Vertex \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum or Minimum point? \_\_\_\_\_

Equation of the Line of Symmetry \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $x^2 + 6x = -5$



Solution Set: \_\_\_\_\_

Vertex \_\_\_\_\_ Maximum or Minimum point? \_\_\_\_\_

Equation of the Line of Symmetry \_\_\_\_\_