

## Section 6-7 Inverse Relations and Functions

**Learning Goal:** To understand how to find the inverse of a relation or function.

**Essential Questions:** How can you simplify the  $n$ th root of an expression that contains an  $n$ th root as a factor?

When you square each side of an equation, is the resulting equation equivalent to the original?

How are function and its inverse function related?

### Warm Up:

1. Let  $f(x) = \sqrt{x} - 4$  and  $g(x) = x + 6$ . What are  $f + g$  and  $f - g$ ? What are their domains?

a)  $f + g$

b)  $f - g$

2. Let  $f(x) = x^2 - 16$  and  $g(x) = x - 4$ . What are  $f \cdot g$  and  $\frac{f}{g}$ ? What are their domains?

a)  $f \cdot g$

b)  $\frac{f}{g}$

3. Let  $f(x) = x - 2$  and  $g(x) = x^3$ . What is  $(f \circ g)(2)$ ?

## Vocabulary:

**Relation:** a set of ordered pairs  $(x, y)$

**Function:** a function is a relation in which each element of the domain corresponds with exactly one element in the range.

**Domain:**  $x$  – values

**Range:**  $y$ -values

**Inverse relation:** is a set of ordered pairs  $(y, x)$

**Note:** if both a relation and its inverse happen to be functions, they are **inverse functions**.

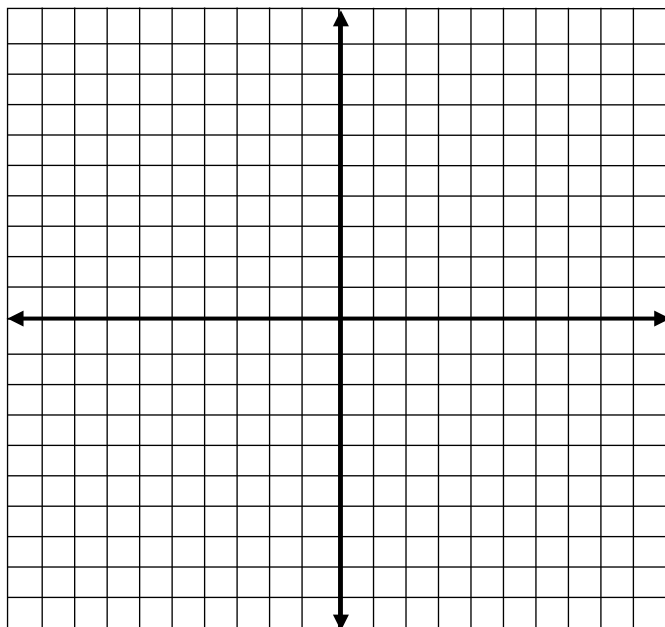
You Try:

1. What is the inverse of relation  $s$ ?

Relation  $s$

$x$	$y$
0	-1
2	0
3	2
4	3

2. What are the graphs of  $s$  (mark with a dot) and its inverse (mark with an  $x$ ).

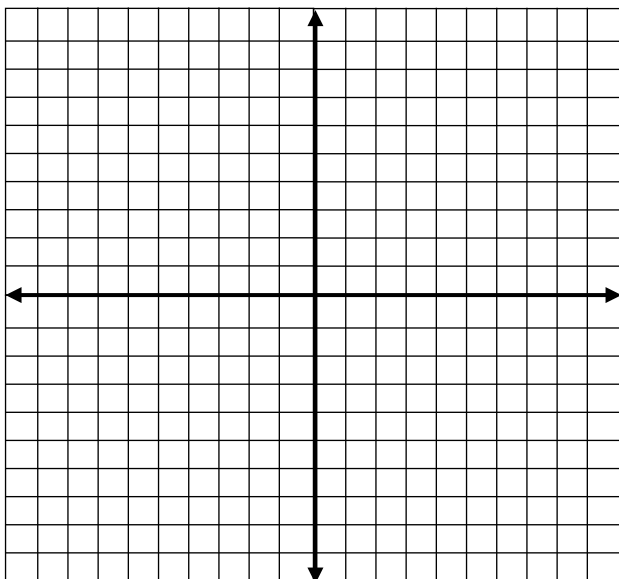


3. What is the inverse of relation v?

Relation v

x	y
-2	2
-1	0
0	3
1	0

4. What are the graphs of v (mark with a dot) and its inverse(mark with an x).



Note: The graphs of a relation and its inverse are the reflections of each other in the line  $y = x$ . If you describe a relation of function by an equation in x and y, you can switch x and y to get an equation of the inverse.

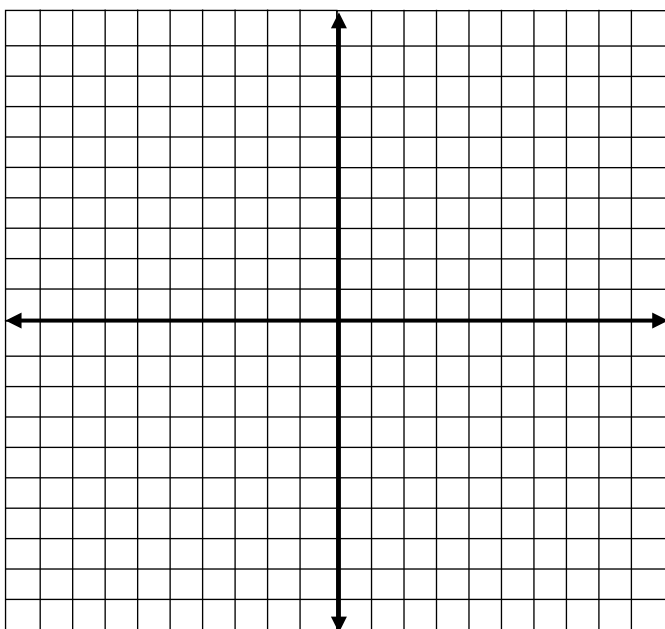
5. What is the inverse of the relation described by  $y = x^2 - 1$ ?

6. What is the inverse of the relation described by  $y = 2x + 8$ ?

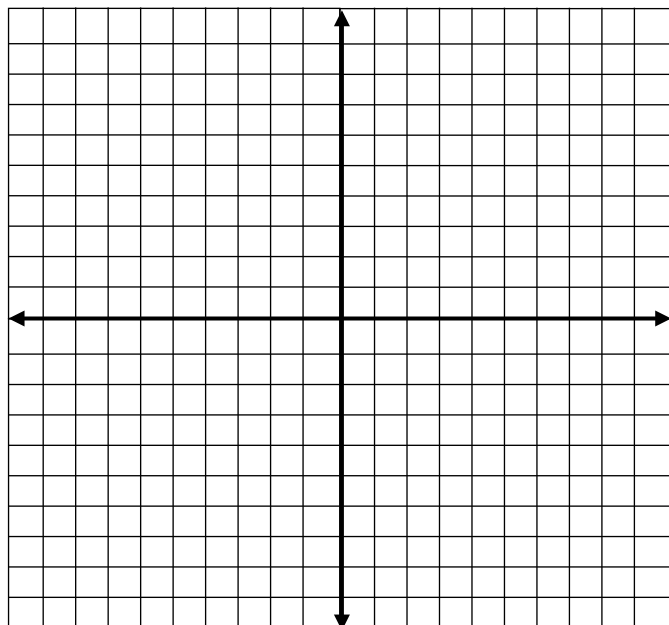
7. What is the inverse of the relation described by  $y = 5x^2 + 2$ ?

Graphing a relation and its inverse.

8. What are the graphs of  $y = x^2 - 1$  and its inverse,  $y = \pm\sqrt{x+1}$ ?



9. What are the graphs of  $y = 2x + 8$  and its inverse?



**Inverse of a function f** – denoted by  $f^{-1}$ . Read “the inverse of f” or “f inverse”.

The notations  $f(x)$  is used for functions but the relation  $f^{-1}$  may not be a function.

**Finding and Inverse function.**

1. What are the domain and range of a function?
2. Find  $f^{-1}$ , the inverse of f.
3. What are the domain and range of  $f^{-1}$ ?
4. Is  $f^{-1}$  a function? Yes, if for every x in the domain, there is only one y in the range.  
No, if 1 domain has two different ranges.

**Example:**

Consider the function  $f(x) = \sqrt{x-2}$ .

- a) What are the domain and range of  $f$ ?
- b) What is  $f^{-1}$ , the inverse of  $f$ ?
- c) What are the domain and range of  $f^{-1}$ ?
- d) Is  $f^{-1}$  a function? Explain.

You Try:

10. Consider the function  $g(x) = 6 - 4x$ .
- a) What are the domain and range of  $g$ ?
  - b) What is  $g^{-1}$ , the inverse of  $g$ ?
  - c) What are the domain and range of  $g^{-1}$ ?
  - d) Is  $g^{-1}$  a function? Explain.

**One-to-one function:** is a function for which each y-value in the range corresponds to exactly one x-value in the domain. A one-to-one function  $f$  has an inverse  $f^{-1}$  that is also a function.

**Composition of Inverse Functions:** If  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are inverse functions, then

$$(f^{-1} \circ f)(x) = x \text{ and } (f \circ f^{-1})(x) = x \text{ for } x \text{ in the domains of } f \text{ and } f^{-1}, \text{ respectively}$$

Your try:

11. For  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x-1}$ , what is each of the following?

a)  $f^{-1}(x)$

b)  $(f \circ f^{-1})(1)$

c)  $(f^{-1} \circ f)(1)$



12. For  $g(x) = \frac{4}{x+2}$ , what is each of the following?

a)  $g^{-1}(x)$

b)  $(g \circ g^{-1})(0)$

c)  $(g^{-1} \circ g)(0)$

Closure:      How can you tell from the graph of a function whether its inverse is a function?

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Assignment: section 6.7 # 8,11,13,15,21,23,26,27,31,35,38,42,44,52,55    (15 problems)