

**Section:** 7.2      **Objective:** Graph quadratic formulas using the vertex and value of  $a$ .

The graph of  $y = x^2$  :

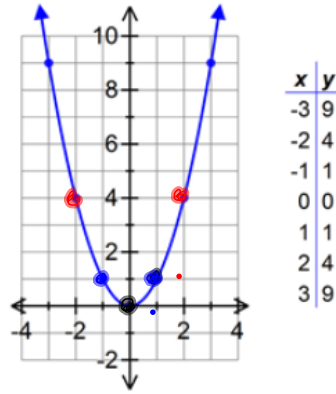
Vertex:  $(0, 0)$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = 0$

Direction of Opening:  $a$  is positive up

y-intercept:  $(0, 0)$

Pattern: start a vertex  $\begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \rightarrow \\ \uparrow \\ \leftarrow \\ \uparrow \end{matrix}$

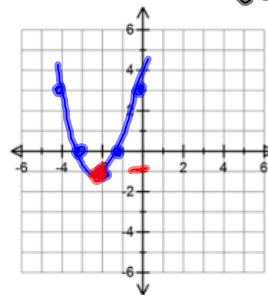


1. Find the vertex of the parabola.
2. Then use the pattern of the parent graph to find 4 more points, 2 on each side of the vertex. If  $a$  isn't 1, the pattern is a little different (see next page).

**Examples:** Fill in the requested information for each function. Then draw the graph.

a)  $f(x) = x^2 + 4x + 3$       Form of the equation: Standard       $a = 1$      $b = 4$   
 $c = 3$

Vertex:  $\frac{-b}{2a} = \frac{-4}{2(1)} = \frac{-4}{2} = -2$      $(-2, -1)$   
 $(-2)^2 + 4(-2) + 3$



Axis of Symmetry:  $x = -2$

Direction of Opening: up

Is the vertex a maximum or minimum?

Maximum or minimum value:  $-1$  is y coord of vertex

y-intercept:  $x = 0$      $(0, 3)$

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

Vertex

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $[-1, \infty)$   
 y value of vertex

**Vertical Stretch:**

- $a$  changes how wide the graph is.
  - If  $|a| > 1$ , the graph is **thinner** than the graph of  $y = x^2$ .
  - If  $|a| < 1$ , the graph is **wider** than the graph of  $y = x^2$ .

**How  $a$  changes the pattern:**

The normal pattern is find the vertex, then move over 1 up 1. To find the next two points go back to the vertex and move over 2 up 4.

When  $a$  is not 1 you multiply the y-value (the "up" number) by " $a$ " to get the up value.

**Example:**  $y = 3x^2$  Instead of over 1 up 1 it would be over 1 up 3 (one times 3) and instead of over 2 up 4 it would be over 2 up 12 (four times 3)

b)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x-1)^2 - 4$  Form of the equation: vertex  $a = \frac{1}{2}$   $h = 1$   $k = -4$

Vertex:

$(h, k)$   $(1, -4)$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = 1$

Direction of Opening: up  
 $a$  is positive ↻

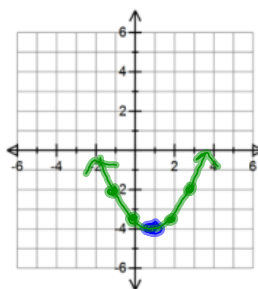
Is the vertex a maximum or minimum?

Maximum or minimum value: -4  
 y-coord

y-intercept:  $(0, -3.5)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $[-4, \infty)$  ↻



Vertex

x	y
-1	-2
0	-3.5
1	-4
2	-3.5
3	-2

c)  $f(x) = -3x^2 - 6x + 2$  Form of the equation: Standard  $a = -3$   $b = -6$   $c = 2$

Vertex:  
 $\frac{-b}{2a} = \frac{6}{2(-3)} = -1$   $(-1, 5)$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = -1$

Direction of Opening: down

Is the vertex a maximum or minimum?

Maximum or minimum value: 5

y-intercept:  $x = 0$   $(0, 2)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, 5]$

x	y
-3	2
-2	5
-1	5
0	2
1	-2

d)  $f(x) = -(x+2)^2 - 1$  Form of the equation: Vertex  $a = -1$   $h = -2$   $k = -1$

Vertex:  $(h, k)$   
 $(-2, -1)$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = -2$

Direction of Opening: down

Is the vertex a maximum or minimum?

Maximum or minimum value: -1

y-intercept:  $x = 0$   $(0, -5)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, -1]$

x	y
-4	-5
-3	-2
-2	-1
-1	-2
0	-5

e)  $f(x) = 2(x-4)^2 - 3$  Form of the equation: Vertex  $a = 2$   $h = 4$   $k = -3$

Vertex:  
 $(h, k) (4, -3)$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = h$   $x = 4$

Direction of Opening:  $\curvearrowright$

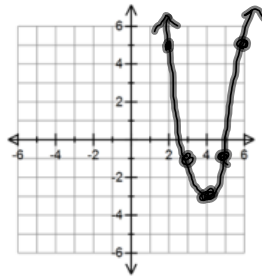
Is the vertex a maximum or minimum?

Maximum or minimum value: y coord  $-3$

y-intercept:  
 $2(0-4)^2 - 3 \Rightarrow (0, 29)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $[-3, \infty)$   $\curvearrowright$



Vertex

x	y
2	-1
3	-1
4	-3
5	-1
6	-1

f)  $f(x) = -\frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + 2$  Form of the equation: Standard  $a = -\frac{1}{2}$   $b = -1$   $c = 2$

Vertex:  $-\frac{b}{2a} = \frac{1}{2(-\frac{1}{2})} = -1$   $(-1, 2.5)$

Axis of Symmetry:  $x = -1$

Direction of Opening: down  $\curvearrowleft$

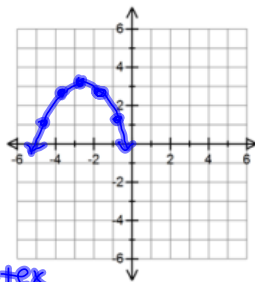
Is the vertex a maximum or minimum?

Maximum or minimum value: y coord of vertex  $2.5$

y-intercept:  
 $x = 0$   
 $(0, 2)$

Domain:  $(-\infty, \infty)$

Range:  $(-\infty, 2.5]$   $\curvearrowleft$



Vertex

x	y
-3	0
-2	2
-1	2.5
0	2
1	0