

Quadratic Inequalities



Be good at recognizing a quadratic equation. They are all polynomials of degree 2 (two is the highest power). There are 4 inequality symbols.

$$ax^2 + bx + c < 0 \text{ or } ax^2 + bx + c \leq 0 \text{ or } ax^2 + bx + c > 0 \text{ or } ax^2 + bx + c \geq 0$$

We have a number of strategies to solve these.

#1- We solve graphically - just like with the linear versions
With one extra step.

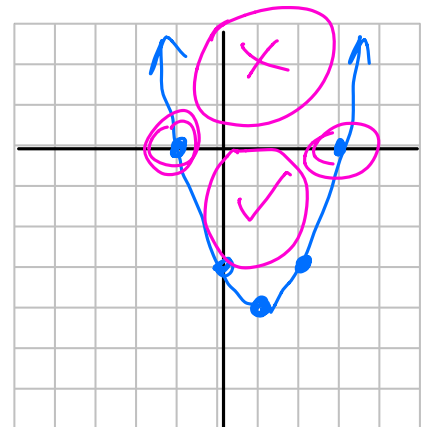
Eg: $x^2 - 2x - 3 \leq 0$

$$y = (x-1)^2 - 1 - 3 \leq 0$$

$$y = (x-1)^2 - 4 \leq 0$$

$$y \leq (x-1)^2 - 4$$

$$0: \{x \mid -1 \leq x \leq 3, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$



Once we have it graphed, we need to know which portion of the parabola is a solution to our inequality.

Our inequality is asking for all of the points that cause $x^2 - 2x - 3$ to be ≤ 0 .

We can use test points (3 in this case to confirm our intuition) and we must also decide if we are to use $(\circ, \text{ or } \bullet)$.

Answer is a solution set:

$$\{x \mid -1 \leq x \leq 3, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Eg2:

$$x^2 - 4x > -3$$

$$x^2 - 4x + 3 > 0$$

$$(x-2)^2 - 4 + 3 > 0$$

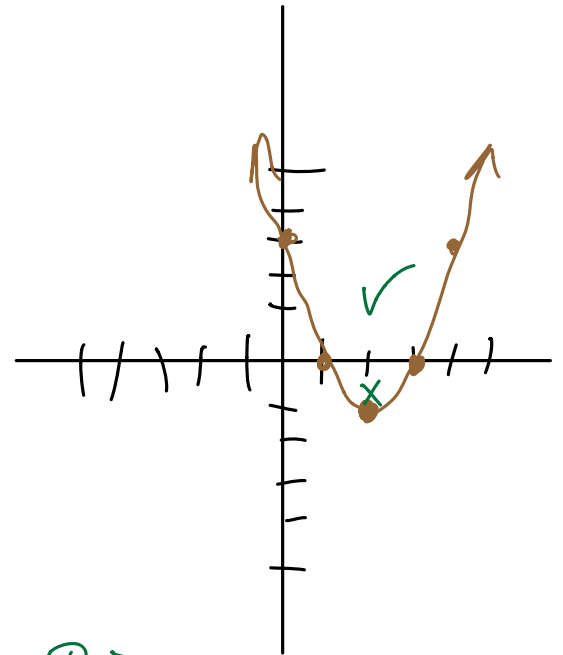
$$(x-2)^2 - 1 > 0$$

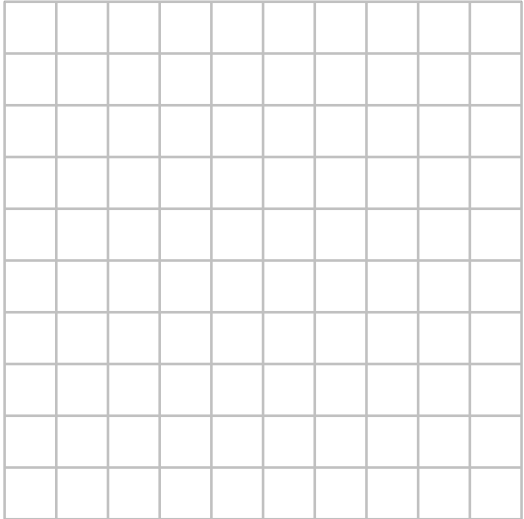
Set notation

$$\{x \mid -\infty < x < 1, 3 < x < \infty, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

Interval notation

$$(-\infty, 1) \cup (3, \infty)$$



Complete the square	
Graph	
Which part of the parabola is a solution?	
(o, or •)	
Solution Set	$\{x \mid \quad, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

Method 2: Solve Algebraically

→ Factor

◆ In order to find the roots (zeroes)

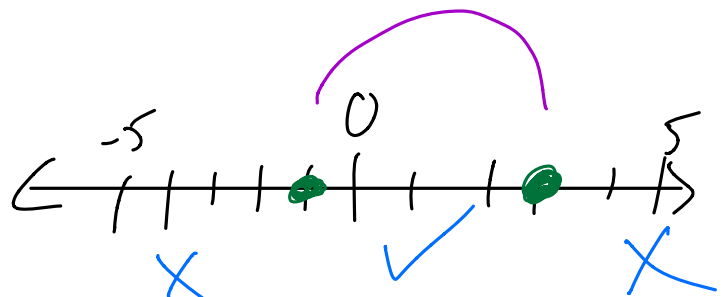
→ Put the points on a number line

→ Test your intervals

→ Write the solution set

Eg: $x^2 - 2x - 3 \leq 0$

$$\underline{(x-3)(x+1)} \leq 0$$



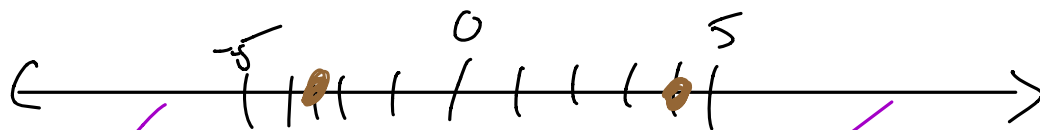
$$\{x \mid -1 \leq x \leq 3, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$[-1, 3]$$

Eg: $-x^2 + x + 12 < 0$

$$x^2 - x - 12 > 0$$

$$(x - 4)(x + 3) > 0$$



$$\{x \mid -\infty < x < -3, 4 < x < \infty, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$(-\infty, -3) \cup (4, \infty)$$

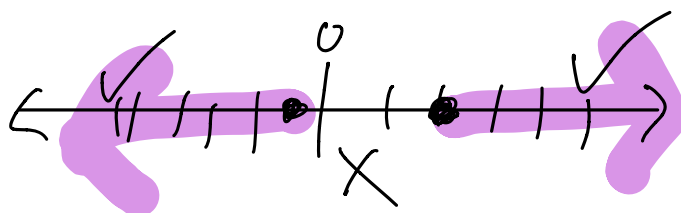
Eg: $2x^2 - 3x > 2$

Hint: $\{x \mid x < -\frac{1}{2}, 2 < x, x \in \mathbb{R}\}$

$$2x^2 - 3x - 2 > 0$$

$$m \Rightarrow -4 \quad -4, 1$$

$$a \Rightarrow -3$$



$$(-\infty, -\frac{1}{2}) \cup (2, \infty)$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 2x^2 - 3x - 2 > 0 \\ \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \uparrow \\ 2x^2 - 4x + x - 2 \end{array}$$

$$2x(x - 2) + (x - 2)$$

$$(x - 2)(2x + 1) > 0$$

$$x = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad x = -\frac{1}{2}$$