

8.1 Inverse Functions

Old Rearranging Formulas - Solving for variables

$$\textcircled{1} \quad n+c=m \quad (\text{solve for } n)$$
$$n=m-c$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad j = \frac{n}{p} \quad (\text{solve for } p)$$
$$jp = n$$
$$p = \frac{n}{j}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \frac{p}{q} - m = n \quad (\text{solve for } p)$$

$$\frac{p}{q} = n+m$$
$$p = q(n+m)$$

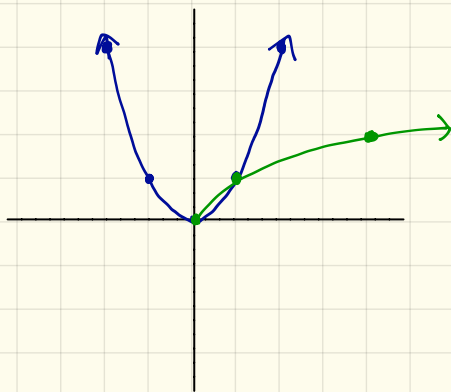
$$\textcircled{4} \quad 2y+a=x \quad (\text{solve for } y)$$
$$2y = x-a$$
$$y = \frac{x-a}{2}$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad p = 2l + 2w \quad (\text{solve for } w)$$
$$p - 2l = 2w$$
$$\frac{p-2l}{2} = w$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad ch + es = ni \quad (\text{solve for } e)$$
$$es = ni - ch$$
$$e = \frac{ni - ch}{s}$$

New Inverse Functions

Let's consider the 2 functions: $f(x) = x^2$ and $g(x) = \sqrt{x}$. Graph, create a T-chart and analyze.



x	$y = x^2$
0	0
1	1
2	4
3	9
4	16
⋮	⋮

x	$y = \sqrt{x}$
0	0
1	1
4	2
9	3
16	4
⋮	⋮

• What is the relationship between $y = x^2$ and $y = \sqrt{x}$?

The 2 functions are inverse functions

• What can you notice about the inverse relationship on the T-chart?

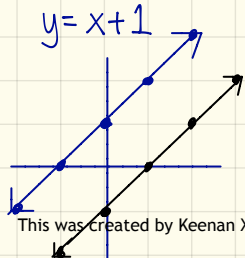
The x and y values switched places.

What do you notice about the inverse relationship on the Cartesian Plane?

The 2 functions are a reflection about the line $y = x$.

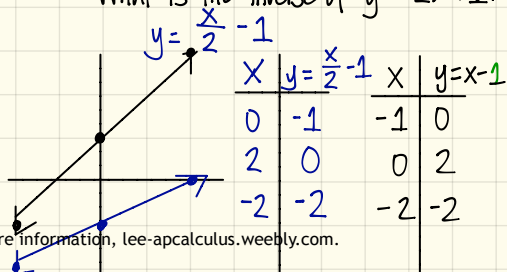
Let's look at some other cases:

What is the inverse of $y = x - 1$?



x	$y = x + 1$	x	$y = x - 1$
0	1	1	0
1	2	2	1
5	6	6	5
7	8	8	7
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

What is the inverse of $y = 2x + 1$?



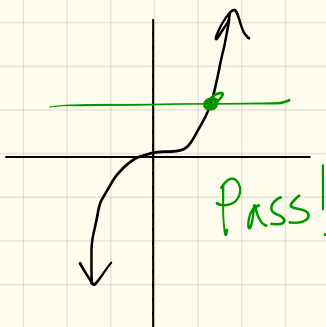
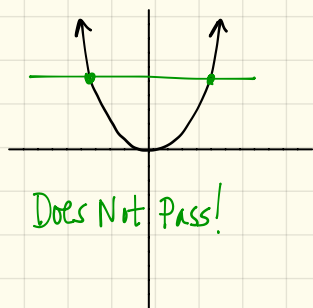
x	$y = \frac{x}{2} - 1$	x	$y = 2x + 1$
0	-1	-1	0
2	0	0	2
-2	-2	-2	-2

• Inverse function notation.

$f(x)$ = function

$f^{-1}(x)$ = inverse function of $f(x)$.

• To determine graphically if a function will have an inverse, use the Horizontal Line Test.



Finding the inverse of a Function Algebraically:

step 1 - In the equation, replace $f(x)$ by y . (if necessary)

step 2 - interchange the roles of x & y , and solve for y .

step 3 - Replace y by $f^{-1}(x)$ in the "new" inverse equation.

[Examples] Find inverse algebraically.

① $f(x) = 2x - 5$

$$y = 2x - 5$$

$$x = 2y - 5$$

$$x + 5 = 2y$$

$$\frac{x + 5}{2} = y$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x + 5}{2}$$

② $f(x) = 3x + 7$

$$y = 3x + 7$$

$$x = 3y + 7$$

$$x - 7 = 3y$$

$$\frac{x - 7}{3} = y$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x - 7}{3}$$

③ $f(x) = \frac{x + 5}{7}$

$$y = \frac{x + 5}{7}$$

$$x = \frac{y + 5}{7}$$

$$7x = y + 5$$

$$7x - 5 = y$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = 7x - 5$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad y = \frac{x-1}{5}$$

$$x = \frac{y-1}{5}$$

$$5x = y-1$$

$$5x+1 = y$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = 5x+1.$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad y = \sqrt{x+7}$$

$$x = \sqrt{y+7}$$

$$(x)^2 = (\sqrt{y+7})^2$$

$$x^2 = y+7$$

$$x^2+7 = y$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = x^2+7$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad g(x) = \sqrt[3]{5-x}$$

$$y = \sqrt[3]{5-x}$$

$$(y)^3 = (\sqrt[3]{5-x})^3$$

$$y^3 = 5-x$$

$$y^3-5 = x$$

$$x^3-5 = y$$

$$g^{-1}(x) = x^3-5$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad f(x) = \frac{x-1}{x+5}$$

$$y = \frac{x-1}{x+5}$$

$$x = \frac{y-1}{y+5}$$

$$x(y+5) = y-1$$

$$xy+5x = y-1$$

$$xy-y = -1-5x$$

$$y(x-1) = -1-5x$$

$$y = \frac{-1-5x}{x-1}$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{-1-5x}{x-1}$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad f(x) = \frac{x+3}{x-1}$$

$$y = \frac{x+3}{x-1}$$

$$x = \frac{y+3}{y-1}$$

$$x(y-1) = y+3$$

$$xy-x = y+3$$

$$xy-x = y+3$$

$$xy-y = x+3$$

$$y(x-1) = x+3$$

$$y = \frac{x+3}{x-1}.$$