

Quadratic Functions

Standard Form

$$f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$$

Vertex: $x = \frac{-b}{2a}$

$$y = f\left(\frac{-b}{2a}\right)$$

y-int $(0, c)$

Point Symmetric to y-int
Plot y-int & find a point on the same horizontal that is equidistant from the axis of symmetry.

x-int
 $0 = ax^2 + bx + c$ is solving a quadratic equation. You can ① factor, ② complete the square and use the square root property or ③ Use quadratic formula.

Extra Points
Choose an x and plug into the function and find y. Then find the point symmetric to the axis of symmetry.

Comments
• y-intercept easy to find
• vertex easy to find
• if factorable x-int, pretty easy to find

Vertex Form

$$f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$$

(h, k)

let $x=0$ and simplify

$$0 = a(x-h)^2 + k \quad \text{so}$$

$$\frac{-k}{a} = (x-h)^2 \Rightarrow x-h = \pm \sqrt{\frac{-k}{a}}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = h + \sqrt{\frac{-k}{a}} \quad \text{or} \quad x = h - \sqrt{\frac{-k}{a}}$$

• vertex is right there for the taking
• x-intercepts use square root property to solve.
• y-intercept is a little painful

Factored Form

$$f(x) = a(x-x_1)(x-x_2)$$

$x = \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}$

$$y = f\left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}\right)$$

let $x=0$ and simplify

$0 = a(x-x_1)(x-x_2)$
Set factors equal to zero and solve for x. If the factors look like $x-x_1$, the roots will be x_1 & x_2 .

• x-intercepts are really easy
• y-int not too bad
• vertex is a midpoint x to x-int & then you must