

Flip the Function

Restrict a domain, then build an inverse.

HIGH SCHOOL • MA.912.F.3.8

MA.912.F.3.8 "Produce an invertible function from a non-invertible function by restricting the domain."

NAME _____

DATE _____

MAKE IT ONE-TO-ONE

A function is invertible when each output matches only one input. For a parabola or an absolute-value function, restrict the domain to one side of its vertex or corner, then solve $y = \dots$ for y to write the inverse.

WORKED EXAMPLE

Restrict $F(x) = (x+2)^2 + 8$ to $x \leq -2$.
Find $F^{-1}(x)$.

1. Write $y = (x+2)^2 + 8$, with $x \leq -2$.
2. Swap x and y : $x = (y+2)^2 + 8$.
3. Solve for y . Because $y \leq -2$, $y = -2 - \sqrt{x-8}$.

Answer: Restricted function: $F(x) = (x+2)^2 + 8$, $x \leq -2$. $F^{-1}(x) = -2 - \sqrt{x-8}$, $x \geq 8$.

PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** Restrict $f(x) = x^2$ to $x \geq 0$. Write $f^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.

ANSWER _____

- 2** Restrict $g(x) = x^2 + 5$ to $x \leq 0$. Write $g^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.

ANSWER _____

- 3** Restrict $h(x) = (x-3)^2$ to $x \geq 3$. Write $h^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.

ANSWER _____

- 4** Restrict $p(x) = (x+4)^2 - 1$ to $x \leq -4$. Write $p^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.

ANSWER _____

- 5** The function $q(x) = |x-6|$ is non-invertible. Restrict its domain so q is invertible and its inverse has a positive rule. Write the restriction and $q^{-1}(x)$.

ANSWER _____

- 6** Restrict $r(x) = (x-1)^2 + 9$ to $x \leq 1$. Write $r^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.

ANSWER _____

APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** During a theater-tech rehearsal, a moving spotlight has height $h(t) = -(t-5)^2 + 30$, where t is time in seconds and $0 \leq t \leq 10$. The stage manager wants time as a function of height while the spotlight is rising. What domain should be used for h , and what is $h^{-1}(x)$, including its domain?

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

- 2** A game developer models an avatar's jump height with $P(t) = -(t-3)^2 + 10$, where t is time in seconds and $0 \leq t \leq 6$. For the descending part of the jump, make P invertible and write the inverse function, including its domain.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER _____

CHALLENGE One step up

CHALLENGE

For $f(x) = x^2 - 6x + 5$, find two different domain restrictions that make f invertible. Write the inverse function for each restriction, including each inverse domain.

PART 1 · PRACTICE

#	PROBLEM	ANSWER
1	Restrict $f(x)=x^2$ to $x \geq 0$. Write $f^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.	$f^{-1}(x)=\sqrt{x}, x \geq 0$.
2	Restrict $g(x)=x^2+5$ to $x \leq 0$. Write $g^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.	$g^{-1}(x)=-\sqrt{x-5}, x \geq 5$.
3	Restrict $h(x)=(x-3)^2$ to $x \geq 3$. Write $h^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.	$h^{-1}(x)=\sqrt{x}+3, x \geq 0$.
4	Restrict $p(x)=(x+4)^2-1$ to $x \leq -4$. Write $p^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.	$p^{-1}(x)=-\sqrt{x+1}-4, x \geq -1$.
5	The function $q(x)= x-6 $ is non-invertible. Restrict its domain so q is invertible and its inverse has a positive rule. Write the restriction and $q^{-1}(x)$.	Restrict q to $x \geq 6$. $q^{-1}(x)=x+6, x \geq 0$.
6	Restrict $r(x)=(x-1)^2+9$ to $x \leq 1$. Write $r^{-1}(x)$ and its domain.	$r^{-1}(x)=1-\sqrt{x-9}, x \geq 9$.

PART 2 · APPLY IT

- Use $0 \leq t \leq 5$. $h^{-1}(x)=5-\sqrt{30-x}$, with $5 \leq x \leq 30$. The spotlight rises until its maximum height at $t=5$, so keep the left branch. Solve $x=-(t-5)^2+30$ and choose the negative square-root branch.
- Use $3 \leq t \leq 6$. $p^{-1}(x)=3+\sqrt{10-x}$, with $1 \leq x \leq 10$. The avatar descends after the vertex at $t=3$, so keep the right branch. Solve $x=-(t-3)^2+10$ and choose the positive square-root branch.

CHALLENGE

If $x \geq 3$, then $f^{-1}(x)=3+\sqrt{x+4}$, with $x \geq -4$. If $x \leq 3$, then $f^{-1}(x)=3-\sqrt{x+4}$, with $x \geq -4$.

Accept equivalent inverse forms, such as $-\sqrt{x-5}$ instead of $0-\sqrt{x-5}$. Students must pair each inverse rule with the correct restricted branch and inverse domain.