

Conics - Parabolas 1-4-16

A conic section is formed when you intersect a plane with with cones. There are 4 conic sections...

parabola      circle      ellipse      hyperbola

Dec 17-7:28 PM

We've already seen parabolas...

$$f(x) = -4(x+2)^2 + 1$$

↓  
(-2, 1)

opens down

vertex

$$g(x) = x^2 - 2x + 2$$

opens up

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3 Things You Need to be Able to do with Parabolas:

- determine whether an equation is that of a parabola
- determine the vertex by looking at an equation
- determine the direction of opening by looking at an equation

Dec 19-11:20 AM

Equation of a Parabola

\*\* Can only have 1 variable squared ( $x^2$  OR  $y^2$ )\*\*

$$y = -4(x+2)^2 + 1$$

$$y = x^2 - 2x + 2$$

$$x - y^2 - 6y - 4 = 0$$

$$6x^2 + 12x - y + 15 = 0$$

$$x = \frac{1}{3}(y-1)^2 - 7$$

$$x = y^2$$

$$x = -y^2 + 4y - 4$$

Dec 17-9:50 PM

The vertex-form equation of a vertical parabola that opens up or down is

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

where  $a$  tells the direction of opening and the vertex is  $(h, k)$

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Direction of Opening of Vertical Parabola  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

Here's the graph of  $y = 3(x - 1)^2 + 2$

What is the direction of opening?  
*Up*

Here's the graph of  $y = -3(x - 1)^2 + 2$

What is the direction of opening?  
*Down*

What made the 2nd one go down?  
*a was negative*

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Direction of Opening of Vertical Parabola  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

Determining the Direction of Opening for a Vertical Parabola:

- $y =$  tells us the parabola opens up or down (because the  $y$ -axis runs up & down)
- If  $a > 0$  (positive), the parabola opens up
- If  $a < 0$  (negative), the parabola opens down

Dec 19-11:41 AM

Vertex of a Vertical Parabola  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

Here's the graph of  $y = (x + 2)^2 + 4$

What is the vertex? *(-2, 4)*

Here's the graph of  $y = (x - 3)^2 - 5$

What is the vertex? *(3, -5)*

What happened to the sign of the number in the parentheses getting squared?  
*opposite*

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Vertex of a Vertical Parabola  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

Determining the Vertex of a Vertical Parabola:

- the opposite sign of the number with the x (h) is the x-value
- the other number (k) is the y-value

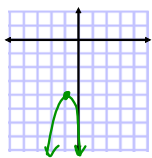
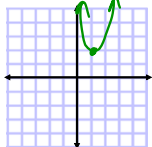
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Given the equation, find the vertex.

- $y = (x - 1)^2 + 2$   $(1, 2)$
- $y = (x + 5)^2 - 7$   $(-5, -7)$
- $y = (x + 1)^2 + 7$   $(-1, 7)$
- $y = (x + 2)^2$   $(-2, 0)$
- $y = x^2 - 11$   $(0, -11)$

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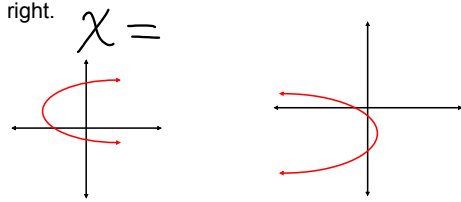
Determine the vertex and direction of opening. Then sketch the graph.

- $y = -2(x + 1)^2 - 4$   
 Vertex =  $(-1, -4)$   
 Dir. Opening =  $\downarrow$ 

- $y = 3(x - 1)^2 + 2$   
 Vertex =  $(1, 2)$   
 Dir. Opening =  $\uparrow$ 


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So far, we've only had vertical parabolas that open up or down, but we can also have horizontal parabolas that open left and right.

$x =$



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The vertex-form equation of a horizontal parabola that opens left or right is

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

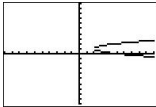
where  $a$  tells the direction of opening and  $(x, y)$  the vertex is  $(h, k)$

*a + → Rt*  
*a - ← Left*

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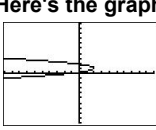
Direction of Opening of Horizontal Parabola  $x = a(y - k)^2 + h$

Here's the graph of  $x = 3(y - 1)^2 + 2$



What is the direction of opening?  
*Rt.*

Here's the graph of  $x = -3(y - 1)^2 + 2$



What is the direction of opening?  
*left*

What made the 2nd one go left?  
*negative a*

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Direction of Opening of Horizontal Parabola  $x = a(y - k)^2 + h$

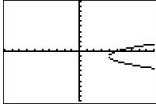
Determining the Direction of Opening for a Horizontal Parabola:

- $x =$  tells us the parabola opens left or right (because the  $x$ -axis runs left & right)
- If  $a > 0$  (positive), the parabola opens right
- If  $a < 0$  (negative), the parabola opens left

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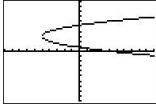
Vertex of a Horizontal Parabola  $x = a(y - k)^2 + h$

Here's the graph of  $x = (y + 1)^2 + 4$



What is the vertex? *(4, -1)*

Here's the graph of  $x = (y - 3)^2 - 5$



What is the vertex? *(-5, 3)*

What happened to the sign of the number in the parentheses getting squared?  
*opposite*

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Vertex of a Horizontal Parabola  $x = a(y - k)^2 + h$

Determining the Vertex of Left/Right Parabola:

- the opposite sign of the number with the y (k) is the y-value
- the other number (h) is the x-value

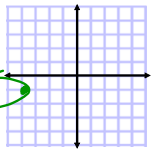
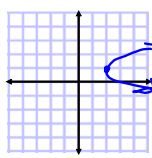
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Given the equation, find the vertex.

- $x = (y - 1)^2 + 2$
- $x = (y + 5)^2 - 7$   $(-7, -5)$
- $x = (y - 6)^2 - 12$
- $x = y^2 + 7$   $(7, 0)$
- $x = (y + 3)^2$   $(0, -3)$

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Determine the vertex and direction of opening. Then sketch the graph.

- $x = -2(y + 1)^2 - 4$   
 Vertex =  $(-4, -1)$   
 Dir. Opening = left
 
- $x = 3(y - 1)^2 + 2$   
 Vertex =  $(2, 1)$   
 Dir. Opening = right
 

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Conclusion

- What is the vertex on  $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$ ?  $(h, k)$
- What is the vertex on  $x = a(y - k)^2 + h$ ?  $(h, k)$
- How do you know if it's going to open up/down OR left/right?  
 $x = a \rightarrow$  left  
 $x = -a \rightarrow$  right  
 $y = a \rightarrow$  up  
 $y = -a \rightarrow$  down
- What does a negative a do on an x=equation? y=equation?  
 x=equation: Down  
 y=equation: left
- Questions???

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**Assignment:  
Parabola Wkst**

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