

NOTES: Section 9.7 – Using the Discriminant

Goals: #1 - I can use the discriminant to determine the number of solutions of a quadratic equation.

Homework: Section 9.7 Worksheet



Warm Up: Use the quadratic formula to solve the equation. Write your answer in simplest radical form.

$$1. \quad 4x^2 - 8x = -3$$

$$4x^2 - 8x + 3 = 0$$

$\begin{matrix} a & b & c \end{matrix}$

$$X = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$X = \frac{-(-8) \pm \sqrt{(-8)^2 - 4(4)(3)}}{2(4)}$$

$$X = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{64 - 48}}{8}$$

$$X = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{16}}{8}$$

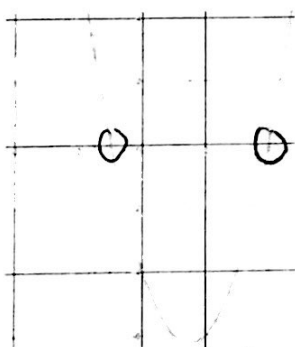
$$X = \frac{8+4}{8} = \frac{12}{8} = \boxed{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$X = \frac{8-4}{8} = \frac{4}{8} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Exploration #1: Work with a partner and answer the following questions.

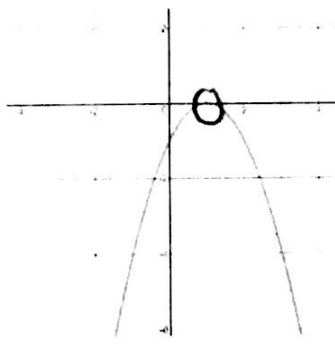
1. Use the graph to identify the solutions of the quadratic equation:

a. $y = x^2 - 3x - 4$



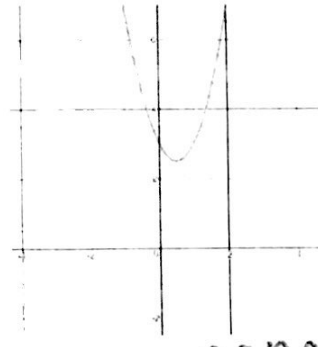
solution/s: -1, 4

b. $y = -x^2 + 2x - 1$



solution/s: 1

c. $y = 2x^2 - 2x + 3$



solution/s: none

2. Find the value of $b^2 - 4ac$ for these quadratic equations:

a. $y = x^2 - 3x - 4$

$$(-3)^2 - 4(1)(-4)$$

$$9 + 16$$

$$\boxed{25}$$

b. $y = -x^2 + 2x - 1$

$$(2)^2 - 4(-1)(-1)$$

$$4 - 4$$

$$\boxed{0}$$

c. $y = 2x^2 - 2x + 3$

$$(-2)^2 - 4(2)(3)$$

$$4 - 24$$

$$\boxed{-20}$$

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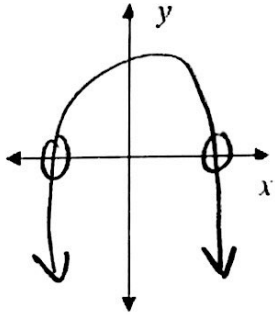
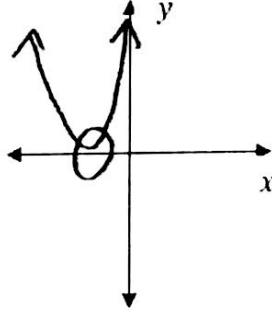
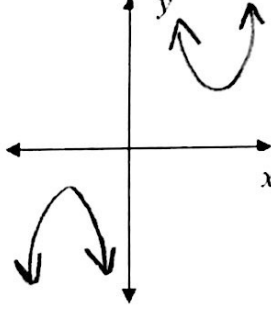
Notes:

In the quadratic formula, the expression $b^2 - 4ac$ is called the discriminant of the quadratic equation.

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

discriminant

We can use the discriminant of a quadratic equation to determine the equation's number and type of solutions.

Value of discriminant	+	0	-
Number and type of solutions	2 solutions	1 solution	no real solutions
Graph of $y = ax^2 + bx + c$			

Example #1: Find the value of the discriminant. Then use the value to determine whether the equation has *two solutions*, *one solution*, or *no real solution*.

1. $x^2 - 3x + 4 = 0$

$$(-3)^2 - 4(1)(4)$$

$$9 - 16$$

$$\boxed{-7}$$

no real solution

2. $2x^2 = 8x - 8$

$$2x^2 - 8x + 8 = 0$$

$$(-8)^2 - 4(2)(8)$$

$$64 - 64$$

$$\boxed{0}$$

one solution

3. $x^2 - 5x + 4 = 0$

$$(-5)^2 - 4(1)(4)$$

$$25 - 16$$

$$\boxed{9}$$

two solutions

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You practice: Find the value of the discriminant. Then use the value to determine whether the equation has *two solutions*, *one solution*, or *no real solution*.

1. $x^2 + 3 = 0$

$$(0)^2 - 4(1)(3)$$

$$0 - 12$$

$$\boxed{-12}$$

no real solution

2. $x^2 - 6x = 13$

$$x^2 - 6x - 13 = 0$$

$$(-6)^2 - 4(1)(-13)$$

$$36 + 52$$

$$\boxed{88}$$

two solutions

3. $x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$

$$(-2)^2 - 4(1)(1)$$

$$4 - 4$$

$$\boxed{0}$$

one solution