

Notes 2.5

**Goal #1:** Students will be able to classify relations as functions, one-to-one, or relations with inverses that are functions.  
**Goal #2:** Students will be able calculate and verify inverse functions.

Inverse Functions & Relations

- ◆ The most important thing to remember about INVERSES is that  $x$  &  $y$  switch.
- ◆ The inverse of  $f(x)$  is denoted  $f^{-1}(x)$
- ◆ If  $f(x)$  &  $g(x)$  are inverses of one another then the domain of one is the range of the other & vice-versa.
- ◆ A relation is itself a function if it passes the Vertical Line Test (VLT)
- ◆ A relation has an inverse that is a function if it passes the Horizontal Line Test (HLT)
- ◆ A function has an inverse function if it is a one-to-one function (meaning it passes both the HLT & VLT)
- ◆ The graphical relationship between inverses is that they are reflections of one another over the line  $y = x$

**EXAMPLE 1 Using the Vertical & Horizontal Line Tests**

(a) Which of the relations to the right are functions? **VLT**

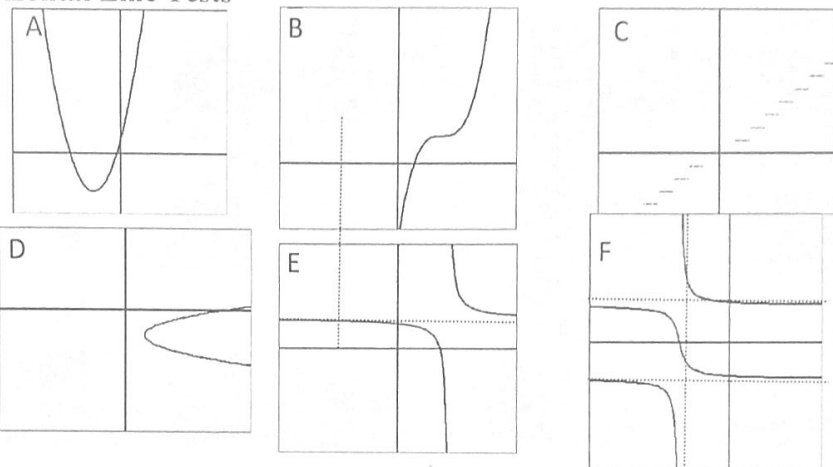
**A B C E**

(b) Which of the relations to the right have an inverse function? **HLT**

**B D E F**

(c) Which of the relations are on-to-one functions? **BOTH**

**B E**



**EXAMPLE 2 Calculating Inverses Algebraically**

Given the function  $f(x)$  calculate  $f^{-1}(x)$  and identify the domain and range of each:

(a)  $f(x) = 3\sqrt{x} - 5$        $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{9}(x+5)^2; x \geq -5$       (b)  $f(x) = \frac{x-4}{x+3}$        $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{-3x-4}{x-1}$   
 Domain of  $f(x)$ :  $x \geq 0$       Domain of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $x \geq -5$       Domain of  $f(x)$ :  $x \neq -3$       Domain of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $x \neq 1$   
 Range of  $f(x)$ :  $y \geq -5$       Range of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $y \geq 0$       Range of  $f(x)$ :  $y \neq 1$       Range of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $y \neq -3$

switch  $x$  &  $y$

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

$$\left(\frac{x+5}{3}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{3\sqrt{y}}{3}\right)^2$$

$$\frac{1}{9}(x+5)^2 = y$$

factor out  $y$

$$(y+3)x = \frac{y-4}{y+3} (y+3)$$

$$\rightarrow xy + 3x = y - 4$$

$$xy - y = -3x - 4$$

$$y(x-1) = -3x - 4$$

$$y = \frac{-3x-4}{x-1}$$

Now You Try ☺

(c)  $f(x) = -(x+1)^3 - 5$        $f^{-1}(x) = \sqrt[3]{-(x+5)} - 1$       (d)  $f(x) = \frac{3}{x-5}$        $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{5x+3}{x}$   
 Domain of  $f(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$       Domain of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$       Domain of  $f(x)$ :  $x \neq 5$       Domain of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $x \neq 0$   
 Range of  $f(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$       Range of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$       Range of  $f(x)$ :  $y \neq 0$       Range of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $y \neq 5$

$$x = -(y+1)^3 - 5$$

$$x+5 = -(y+1)^3$$

$$-(x+5) = (y+1)^3$$

$$\sqrt[3]{-(x+5)} = y+1$$

$$x = \frac{3}{y-5}$$

$$(y-5)x = 3$$

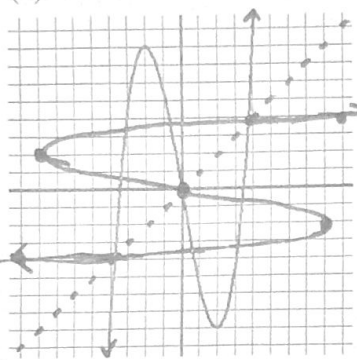
$$xy - 5x = 3$$

$$\frac{xy}{x} = \frac{3+5x}{x}$$

### EXAMPLE 3 Sketching an Inverse Relation From a Graph

Given the function  $f(x)$  below sketch  $f^{-1}(x)$  and identify the domain and range of both.

(a)



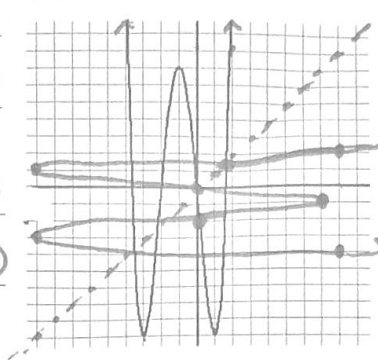
D of  $f(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$

R of  $f(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$

D of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$

R of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$

(b) NOW YOU TRY ☺



D of  $f(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$

R of  $f(x)$ :  $[-9, \infty)$

D of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $[-9, \infty)$

R of  $f^{-1}(x)$ :  $(-\infty, \infty)$

### The Inverse Composition Rule

A function  $f$  is one-to-one with inverse function  $g$  if and only if  $f(g(x)) = x$  for every  $x$  in the domain of  $g$ , and  $g(f(x)) = x$  for every  $x$  in the domain of  $f$ .

### EXAMPLE 4 Verifying Inverses

Given the two functions below verify

$x \geq -3$

← Function not 1 to 1 so, you must restrict the domain.

(a)  $f(x) = -\frac{1}{2}(x+3)^2 - 4$  &  $g(x) = \sqrt{-2x-8} - 3$

(b)  $f(x) = \frac{x-11}{3}$  &  $g(x) = 3x+11$  1 to 1

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= -\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{-2x-8}-3+3)^2 - 4 \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{-2x-8})^2 - 4 \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}(-2x-8) - 4 \\ &= x+4-4 \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$f(g(x)) = \frac{3x+11-11}{3} = \frac{3x}{3} = x \quad \checkmark$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= 3\left(\frac{x-11}{3}\right) + 11 \\ &= x-11+11 \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Does not have an inverse

function unless Domain is restricted. Now You Try ☺

(c)  $f(x) = \frac{2}{x-7}$  &  $g(x) = \frac{2}{x} + 7$  1 to 1

(d)  $f(x) = 5\sqrt[3]{x} - 7$  &  $g(x) = \frac{(x+7)^3}{125}$  1 to 1

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= \frac{2}{\frac{2}{x} + 7 - 7} \\ &= \frac{2}{\frac{2}{x}} \\ &= 2 \div \frac{2}{x} \\ &= 2 \cdot \frac{x}{2} \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(f(x)) &= \frac{2}{\frac{2}{x-7} + 7} + 7 \\ &= 2 \div \frac{2}{x-7} + 7 \\ &= 2 \cdot \frac{x-7}{2} + 7 \\ &= x-7+7 \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(g(x)) &= 5\sqrt[3]{\frac{(x+7)^3}{125}} - 7 \\ &= 5 \cdot \frac{x+7}{5} - 7 \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \\ g(f(x)) &= \frac{(5\sqrt[3]{x}-7+7)^3}{125} \\ &= \frac{125x}{125} \\ &= x \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$