

6-7

Notes

Inverse Relations and Functions

Choose the word or phrase from the list that best matches each sentence.

inverse relation inverse functions one-to-one function f^{-1}

- In a **one-to-one function**, each y -value in the range corresponds to exactly one x -value in the domain.
- A relation pairs element a of its domain to element b of its range. The **inverse relation** pairs b with a .
- The inverse of a function f is represented by **f^{-1}** .
- If a relation and its inverse are functions, then they are **inverse functions**.
- Explain each of the steps followed to find f^{-1} of $f(x) = \sqrt{3x-2}$. The first step is done for example.

$$y = \sqrt{3x-2} \quad \text{Replace } f(x) \text{ with } y. \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

$$x = \sqrt{3y-2} \quad \text{Switch } x \text{ and } y. \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

$$x^2 = 3y - 2 \quad \text{Square both sides.} \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

$$x^2 + 2 = 3y \quad \text{Add 2 to both sides.} \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

$$y = \frac{x^2 + 2}{3} \quad \text{Divide both sides by 3 and solve for } y. \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

- Find f^{-1} for $f(x) = 4x - 8$, and explain the steps.

$$y = 4x - 8 \quad \text{Replace } f(x) \text{ with } y. \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

$$x = 4y - 8 \quad \text{Switch } x \text{ and } y. \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

$$x + 8 = 4y \quad \text{Add 8 to both sides.} \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

$$y = \frac{x}{4} + 2 \quad \text{Divide both sides by 4 and solve for } y. \quad \underline{\hspace{10em}}$$

In general, summarize the steps above:

1 – **Replace $f(x)$ with y .**

2 – **Switch x and y .**

(PEMDAS)

3 – **When possible, reverse order of operations until y is alone.**

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Caution:



a. You may want to change roots to exponents $(\sqrt[b]{c})^a \rightarrow c^{\frac{a}{b}}$.

b. Pay attention to what is inside parenthesis and radicals.

c. When raising both sides of an equation to $\frac{\#}{\text{even}\#}$, include \pm in your result.

Seriously, please pay attention to this stuff.

Examples – Find the inverse equation.

1.

$$f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x+2} - 4$$

$$x = \sqrt[3]{y+2} - 4$$

$$x = (y+2)^{\frac{1}{3}} - 4$$

$$x+4 = (y+2)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$(x+4)^3 = y+2$$

$$(x+4)^3 - 2 = y$$

$$f^{-1}(x) = (x+4)^3 - 2$$

2.

$$y = 3x^4$$

$$x = 3y^4$$

$$\frac{x}{3} = y^4$$

$$\pm \left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}} = y$$

$$y^{-1} = \pm \sqrt[4]{\frac{x}{3}}$$