

25.2 Solve Square Root Equations & Graph Cube Root Functions

Solving Square Root Equations

Isolate the radical/square root, then square both sides of the equation.

Check your answers for extraneous solutions

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

→ your math is perfect, but doesn't work when you plug back in

Ex #1 Solve and check for extraneous solutions.

a) $\sqrt{x-3} + 4 = 9$
 $(\sqrt{x-3})^2 = (5)^2$
 $x-3 = 25$
 $x = 28$

Check
 $\sqrt{28-3} + 4 = 9$
 $\sqrt{25} + 4 = 9$
 $5 + 4 = 9$
 $9 = 9 \checkmark$

b) $x = (x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 5$
 $x-5 = \sqrt{x+1}$
 $(x-5)^2 = (\sqrt{x+1})^2$
 $x^2 - 10x + 25 = x+1$
 $x^2 - 11x + 24 = 0$
 $(x-8)(x-3) = 0$
 $x = 8$ $x = 3$
 ext.

Check

x	x-5
8	3
3	-2

 $8 = (8+1)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 5$
 $8 = \sqrt{9} + 5$
 $8 = 3 + 5 \checkmark$
 $3 = (3+1)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 5$
 $3 = \sqrt{4} + 5$
 $3 = 2 + 5 \times$

c) $2 - \sqrt{x+1} = -5$
 $-\sqrt{x+1} = -7$
 $(\sqrt{x+1})^2 = (7)^2$
 $x+1 = 49$
 $x = 48$

Check
 $2 - \sqrt{48-1} = -5$
 $2 - \sqrt{49} = -5$
 $2 - 7 = -5 \checkmark$

d) $(\sqrt{x+4})^2 = (x-8)^2$
 $x+4 = x^2 - 16x + 64$
 $0 = x^2 - 17x + 60$
 $0 = (x-12)(x-5)$
 $x = 12$ $x = 5$
 ext.

Check
 $\sqrt{12+4} = 12-8$
 $\sqrt{16} = 4 \checkmark$
 $\sqrt{5+4} = 5-8$
 $\sqrt{9} = -3 \times$

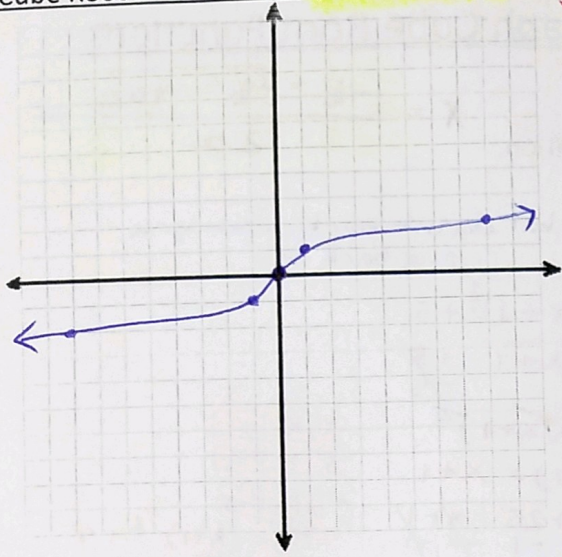
e) $(x+6)^{\frac{1}{2}} = -x$
 $(\sqrt{x+6})^2 = (-x)^2$
 $x+6 = x^2$
 $0 = x^2 - x - 6$
 $0 = (x-3)(x+2)$
 $x = 3$ $x = -2$
 ext.

Check
 $\sqrt{3+6} = -3$
 $3 = -3 \times$
 $\sqrt{-2+6} = 2$
 $\sqrt{4} = 2$
 $2 = 2 \checkmark$

f) $(x+4)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1 = 0$
 $\sqrt{x+4} = -1$
 We know the ans. is **No solution**

Check
 $\sqrt{-3+4} + 1 = 0$
 $\sqrt{1} + 1 = 0$
 $2 = 0$
 No solution

Cube Root Parent Graph: $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$ Negatives inside $\sqrt[3]{x}$ are OK



x	y
0	0
1	1
8	2
-8	-2
-1	-1

$f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x}$ has the points:

$(-8, -2)$ $(-1, -1)$ $(0, 0)$ $(1, 1)$ $(8, 2)$

Cube Root Transformations

$\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{negative: reflection over x-axis} \\ |a| < 1 \text{ vertical shrink} \\ |a| > 1 \text{ vertical stretch} \end{array} \right]$

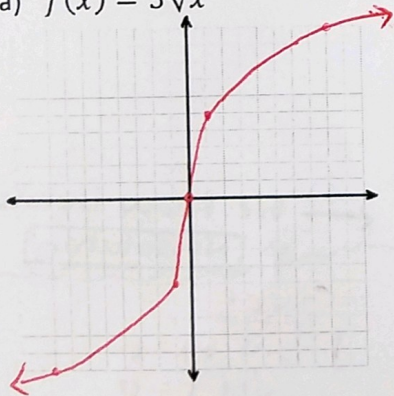
mult the y-val's by "a"

$f(x) = a\sqrt[3]{x-c} + d$

 $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} +d \text{ up} \\ -d \text{ down} \\ +c \text{ left} \\ -c \text{ right} \end{array} \right.$

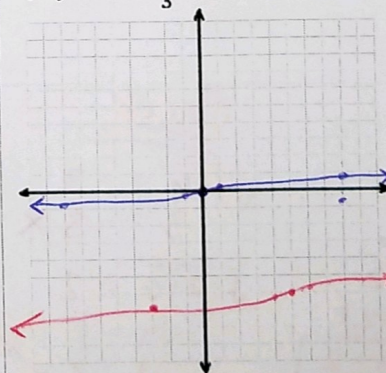
Ex #2 Graph the function, then state the domain and range.

a) $f(x) = 5\sqrt[3]{x}$



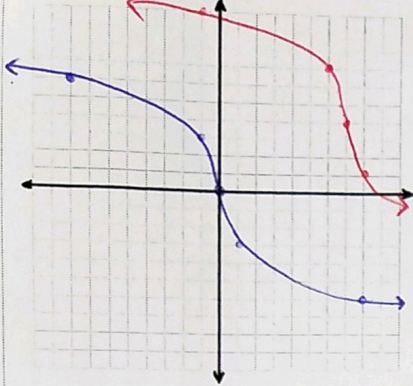
$D: (-\infty, \infty)$
 $R: (-\infty, \infty)$

b) $f(x) = \frac{1}{3}\sqrt[3]{x-5} - 6$



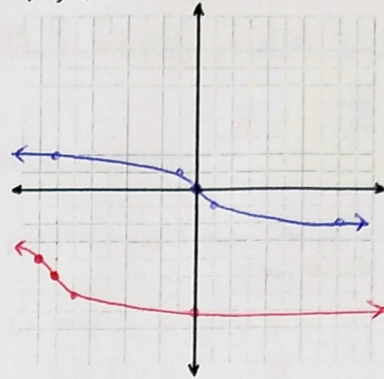
$D: (-\infty, \infty)$
 $R: (-\infty, \infty)$

c) $f(x) = -3\sqrt[3]{x-7} + 4$



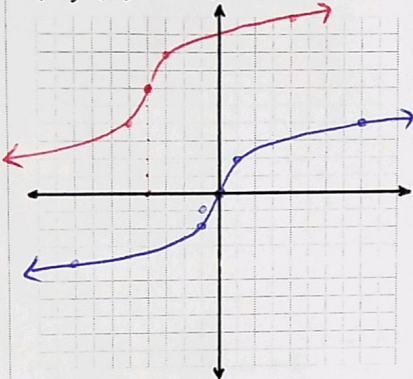
D: $(-\infty, \infty)$
R: $(-\infty, \infty)$

d) $f(x) = -\sqrt[3]{x+8} - 5$



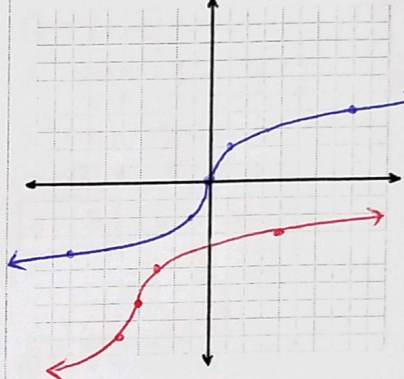
D: $(-\infty, \infty)$
R: $(-\infty, \infty)$

e) $f(x) = 2\sqrt[3]{x+4} + 6$



D: $(-\infty, \infty)$
R: $(-\infty, \infty)$

f) $f(x) = 2\sqrt[3]{x+4} - 7$



D: $(-\infty, \infty)$
R: $(-\infty, \infty)$

Key Features of Cube Root Graphs

What are the domain and range of cube root functions?

D: $(-\infty, \infty)$

R: $(-\infty, \infty)$

What is the shape when "a" is positive?



What is the shape when "a" is negative?

