

Day 35: Completing the Square

These two equations make the same graph:

$y = -2(x + 1)^2 - 5$  and

$y = -2x^2 - 4x - 7$

Which form tells you the vertex?

vertex = (-1, -5)

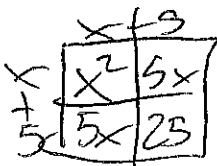
Label each equation with the **form of equation** (standard, factored, or vertex) it is in.

In **vertex form**, we can see the vertex, and also solve equations with square roots. Today we will learn about changing equations *from* standard form *to* vertex form. These questions and processes will lead you through it.

Is the quadratic below a perfect square? Why or why not?

$y = x^2 + 10x + 25$

Yes

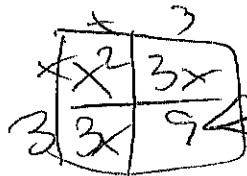


$(x + 5)^2$

What about this one?

$y = x^2 + 6x + 36$

No



Not 36.

If a quadratic is not a perfect square (like the first one above) we can make it into one using a process called **Completing the Square**. Follow the example below:

**Example:** Change the function into **vertex form** by *completing the square*:  $y = x^2 + 6x + 36$

First, find the number that would make it a perfect square. In other words, *complete the square*:

$y = (x^2 + 6x + \underline{9}) + 36$

Next, in order to balance the function, subtract the same number you just added in the step above:

$y = (x^2 + 6x + \underline{9}) + 36 - \underline{9}$

Now, factor the trinomial and then rewrite as a perfect square and combine the remaining numbers:

$y = (x + \underline{3})(x + \underline{3}) + 36 - \underline{9}$

$y = (x + \underline{3})^2 + \underline{27}$

Finally, you have **vertex form**!\*

Vertex = (-3, 27)

Turn the following quadratic functions into vertex form by **completing the square** and then identify its vertex:

1.  $y = x^2 + 14x + 52$

$$\begin{array}{c} x+7 \\ x \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline x^2 & 7x \\ \hline \end{array} + 3 \\ +7 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 7x & 49 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$(x+7)^2 + 3$$

vertex form:  $(x+7)^2 + 3$

vertex:  $(-7, 3)$

2.  $y = x^2 + 8x - 30$

$$\begin{array}{c} x+4 \\ x \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline x^2 & 4x \\ \hline \end{array} - 46 \\ +4 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 4x & 16 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

vertex form:  $(x+4)^2 - 46$

vertex:  $(-4, -46)$

3.  $y = x^2 - 10x + 47$

$$\begin{array}{c} x-5 \\ x \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline x^2 & -5x \\ \hline \end{array} + 22 \\ -5 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline -5x & 25 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$(x-5)^2 + 22$$

vertex form:  $(5, 22)$

vertex:  $(5, 22)$

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

$$\begin{array}{c} x-3 \\ x \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline x^2 & -3x \\ \hline \end{array} - 11 \\ -3 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline -3x & 9 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

$$(x-3)^2 - 11$$

vertex form:  $(3, -11)$

vertex:  $(3, -11)$

5.  $y = x^2 + 11x + 10$

$$\begin{array}{c} x+5.5 \\ x \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline x^2 & 5.5x \\ \hline \end{array} - 20.25 \\ 5.5 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline 5.5x & 30.25 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

vertex form:  $(x+5.5)^2 - 20.25$

vertex:  $(-5.5, -20.25)$

6.  $y = x^2 - 99x - 99$

$$\begin{array}{c} x-49.5 \\ x \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline x^2 & -49.5x \\ \hline \end{array} - 2549.25 \\ -49.5 \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline -49.5x & 2450.25 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

vertex form:  $(x-49.5)^2 - 2549.25$

vertex:  $(49.5, 2549.25)$