

# Inverse Functions

Algebra 1 • Section 4.10

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 12

## Quick Review and Helpful Hints

A function pairs each input with exactly one output. Pay attention to what the input means, what rule is being applied, and whether the question asks for a value, a rule, a domain, or an interpretation.

▷ **Example:** For  $f(x) = 2x + 5$ , find  $f(4)$ .

**Work:** Replace  $x$  with 4:  $f(4) = 2(4) + 5 = 13$ .

★ **Answer:** 13

## ◆ Practice Problems

Solve each problem. Show enough work that another student could follow your thinking.

1. Find the inverse of  $f(x) = x + 7$ . \_\_\_\_\_

6. Find  $f^{-1}(10)$  if  $f(x) = 5x$ . \_\_\_\_\_

2. Find the inverse of  $f(x) = 3x$ . \_\_\_\_\_

7. Find the inverse of  $f(x) = -x + 6$ . \_\_\_\_\_

3. Find the inverse of  $f(x) = 2x - 5$ . \_\_\_\_\_

8. Verify one point: if  $(4, 11)$  is on  $f$ , what point is on  $f^{-1}$ ? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Find the inverse of  $f(x) = \frac{x}{4} + 1$ . \_\_\_\_\_

9. Find the inverse of  $f(x) = \frac{2}{3}x + 8$ . \_\_\_\_\_

5. Are  $f(x) = x - 9$  and  $g(x) = x + 9$  inverses? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Is  $f(x) = x^2$  over all real numbers one-to-one? \_\_\_\_\_

## ◆ Word Problems

11. A Celsius formula is  $F = \frac{9}{5}C + 32$ . Solve for  $C$ . \_\_\_\_\_

12. A machine multiplies by 4 and then adds 3. What inverse steps undo it? \_\_\_\_\_



## Answer Keys

1.  $f^{-1}(x) = x - 7$

2.  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x}{3}$

3.  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x+5}{2}$

4.  $f^{-1}(x) = 4x - 4$

5. Yes

6. 2

7.  $f^{-1}(x) = -x + 6$

8. (11, 4)

9.  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3}{2}(x - 8)$

10. No

11.  $C = \frac{5}{9}(F - 32)$

12. Subtract 3, then divide by 4

### Step-by-Step Explanations

1. An inverse reverses the action: this function adds 7, so its inverse subtracts 7.
2. To undo multiplying by 3, you do the opposite — divide by 3.
3. Trade  $x$  and  $y$ , then untangle  $x = 2y - 5$  for  $y$  to reveal the inverse.
4. Swap, then solve  $x = y/4 + 1$ : subtract the 1, multiply by 4, and you've reversed it.
5. They cancel each other out — subtracting 9 and adding 9 bring you right back to start.
6. The inverse asks: what input would have produced 10? Solve  $5x = 10$  to find 2.

7. Swap and solve and you get the exact same rule — this line is its own inverse, kind of cool.
8. Inverses trade inputs and outputs, so the point simply flips its coordinates.
9. Peel off the 8 first, then multiply by the reciprocal  $\frac{3}{2}$  to undo the  $\frac{2}{3}$ .
10. Both 2 and  $-2$  map to 4, so reversing it would leave 4 confused about where to go.
11. Work backward from  $F$ : subtract 32, then multiply by  $\frac{5}{9}$  to free  $C$ .
12. To unwind a process, reverse both the steps and their order — last action gets undone first.



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