

④

$$\frac{3x+6}{2x-4}$$

$$(3x+6) \div (2x-4)$$

## 5-3: Graphing Rational Functions

Objectives:

1. I can find the x and y intercepts of a rational function
2. I can find the vertical and horizontal asymptotes of a rational function
3. I can find the holes of a rational function
4. I can analyze a graph of a rational function
5. I can graph a rational function by hand

## X and Y Intercepts

Y intercepts,  $x = 0$

$$f(x) = \frac{3x - 12}{x^2 - 5x - 6} = \frac{3(0) - 12}{0^2 - 5(0) - 6} = \frac{-12}{-6} = 2$$

$y$ -int:  $(0, 2)$   $(0, y)$

X intercepts,  $y = 0$

Set top = 0

$$f(x) = \frac{3x - 12}{x^2 - 5x - 6}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3x - 12 = 0 \\ \underline{+12 \quad +12} \\ 3x = 12 \\ \underline{\quad \quad 3} \\ x = 4 \end{array}$$

$x$ -int:  $(4, 0)$   
 $(x, 0)$

Find the x and y intercepts of the following functions:

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

$$f(x) = \frac{3x-5}{(x-2)(x-3)}$$

$x$ -int:  $(3, 0)$   $(-1, 0)$

$$(x-3)(x+1) = 0$$

$3 \quad -1$

$y$ -int:  $(0, -3/2)$

$$\frac{(0-3)(0+1)}{0+2} = \frac{(-3)(1)}{2} = -\frac{3}{2}$$

## Review of Vertical Asymptotes

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{x+3}$$

VA  
 $x = -3$

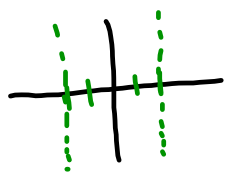
Set the denominator = 0, then solve for x

Vertical  
VA: Line the graph approaches and doesn't touch

Find the vertical asymptotes:

a.  $y = \frac{3x-5}{(x-2)(x+2)}$

$x = +2, -2$



b.  $y = \frac{2x^3}{x-5}$

$x = 5$

c.  $y = \frac{5x}{x+2}$   $x = -2$

## Asymptotes:

check for holes before VA!! (by reducing the fraction if possible)

$$f(x) = \frac{(x-3)\cancel{(x-2)}}{\cancel{(x-2)}} = x-3 \quad x \neq 2$$

vertical (VA): caused by dividing by 0  
the graph approaches  $-\infty$  OR  $\infty$   
on each side of the asymptote

to find the asymptote set den = 0 and solve

Hole: cancel out the factor that  
matches on top & bottom  
and where that factor = 0  
creates a hole

Identify any holes, then find all vertical asymptotes

$$f(x) = \frac{\cancel{(x-3)}(x+3)}{(x-2)\cancel{(x-3)}} = \frac{(x+3)}{(x-2)}$$

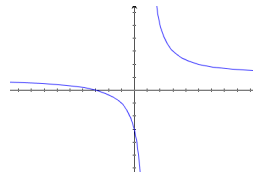
Hole:  $x = 3$

VA:  $x = 2$

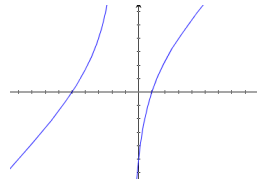
### Horizontal Asymptotes

Look at the graphs, see if you can find the horizontal asymptote. Are there any patterns?

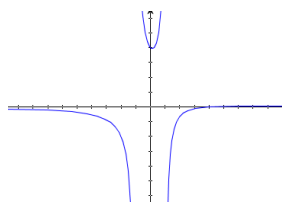
$$f(x) = \frac{x+3}{x-1}$$



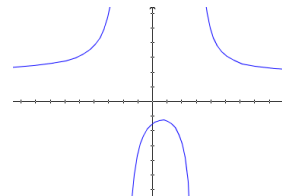
$$f(x) = \frac{(x+5)(x-1)}{x+1}$$



$$f(x) = \frac{x-4}{(x+1)(x-1)}$$



$$f(x) = \frac{2x^2 - 3x + 9}{x^2 - x - 6}$$



**end behavior:(horizontal (HA) or oblique (OA)):**

to find the asymptote - compare the degrees of the numerator and denominator if:

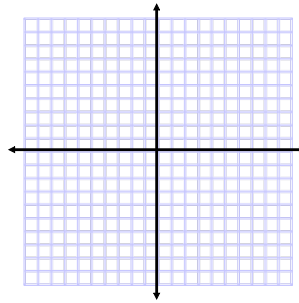
top heavy (OA):

bottom heavy (HEB):  $y = 0$

equal (HA): divide coefficients

Identify the x and y intercepts, vertical and horizontal asymptotes, end behavior, and then graph.

$$f(x) = \frac{-5}{x-1}$$



$$f(x) = \frac{3x-7}{x-2}$$

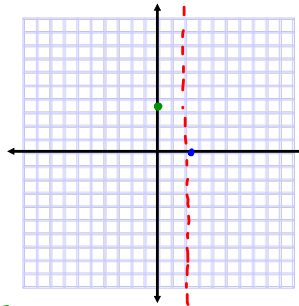
Holes: None

VA:  $x=2$

X-int:  $(\frac{7}{3}, 0)$

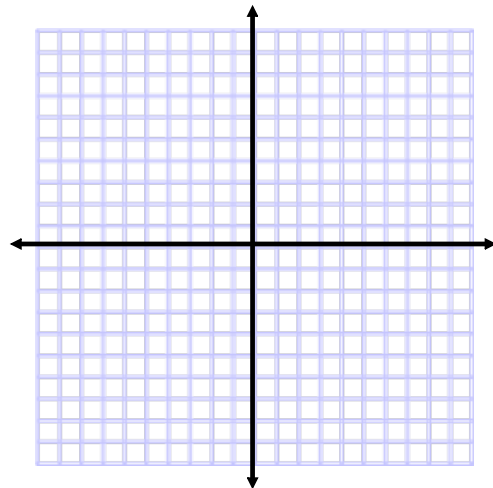
$$y\text{-int: } (0, \frac{7}{2}) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{3(0)-7}{0-2} = \frac{-7}{-2} = \frac{7}{2} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} 3x-7=0 \\ +7 \quad +7 \\ \hline 3x = 7 \\ \frac{3x}{3} = \frac{7}{3} \\ x = \frac{7}{3} \end{array}$$



Identify the x and y intercepts, vertical and horizontal asymptotes, end behavior, and then graph.

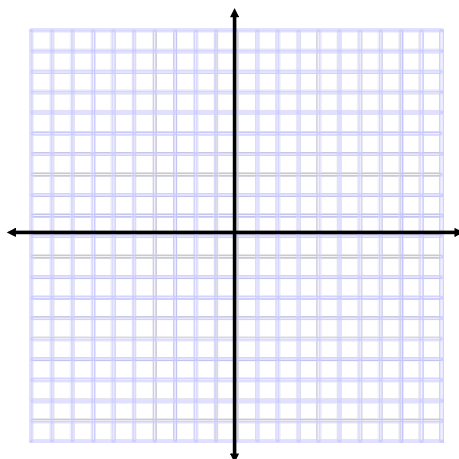
$$f(x) = \frac{3x-2}{x-1}$$



Find the intercepts, asymptotes, limits at vertical asymptotes, analyze and draw the graph of

$$f(x) = \frac{x-1}{(x-4)(x+3)}$$

Domain  
Range  
x-intercepts  
y-intercepts  
VA  
HA  
Asymptote Behavior

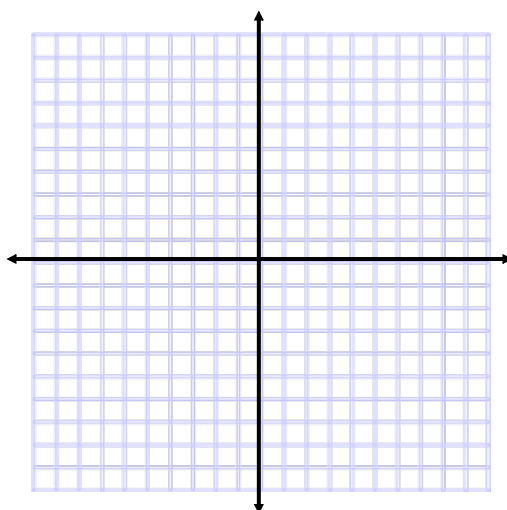


End Behavior

Graph and analyze

$$f(x) = \frac{4x+7}{x+4}$$

Domain  
Range  
x-intercepts  
y-intercepts  
VA  
HA



Asymptote Behavior

End Behavior

Graph and Analyze  $f(x) = \frac{x+1}{(x+3)(x-4)}$

Domain

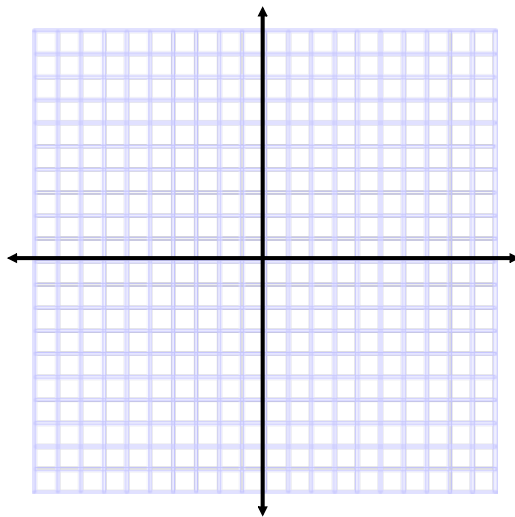
Range

x-intercepts

y-intercepts

VA

HA



Asymptote Behavior

End Behavior

Graph and analyze  $f(x) = \frac{4x-4}{x+2}$

Domain

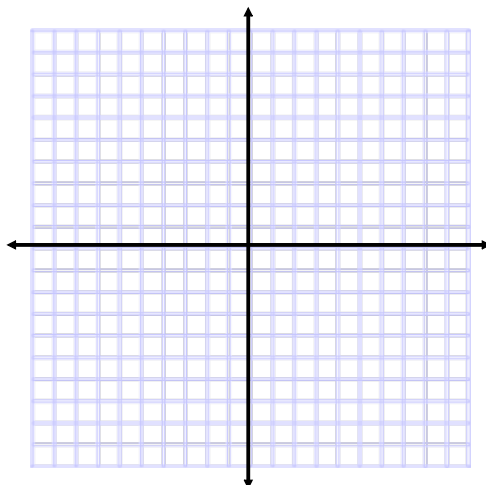
Range

x-intercepts

y-intercepts

VA

HA



Asymptote Behavior

End Behavior