

## B.3 - Solving Equations Algebraically & Graphically

Precal - H



**What will you learn?**



- To solve linear equations
- To find x- and y- intercepts of graphs of equations
- To find solutions of equations graphically
- To find the points of intersection of two graphs
- To solve polynomial equations
- To solve equations involving radicals, fractions, and absolute values

### Example 1 - Solving an Equation Involving Fractions

$$\frac{x}{3} + \frac{3x}{4} = 2$$

**CHECK!**

**See p. A59; exercise 15**

## Example 2 - An Equation with an Extraneous Solution

$$\frac{1}{x-2} = \frac{3}{x+2} - \frac{6x}{x^2-4}$$

### Algebraic

LCD

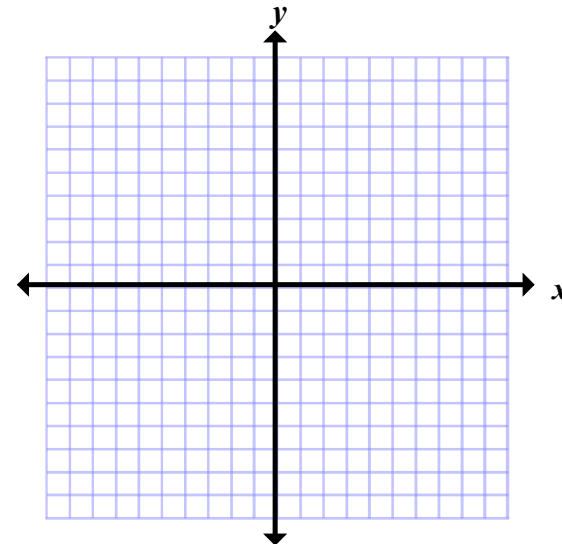
### Graphical

Use *dot mode*

Set  $y1$  = left side of equation

Set  $y2$  = right side of equation

### Check



See p. A60; exercise 29

## Definition of Intercepts

### x - intercept

**To find numerically...**

**To find graphically...**

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### y - intercept

**To find numerically...**

**To find graphically...**

**Example 3 - Finding  $x$ - and  $y$ - intercepts**

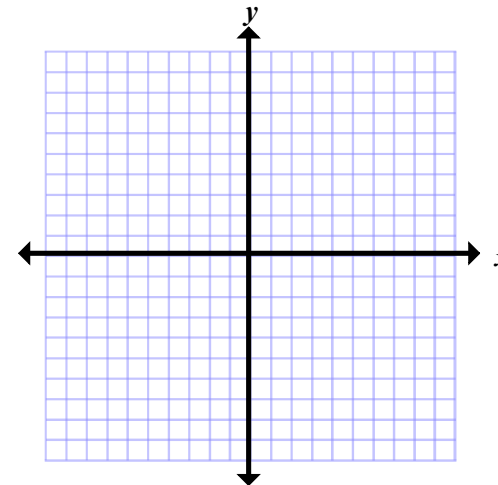
$$2x + 3y = 5$$

Numerically

**$x$ -intercept**

**$y$ -intercept**

Graphically



See p. A60; exercise 31

### Finding Solutions Graphically

Write in  $y =$  Form

Check **Window** - include all relevant features of graph

Use *zero or root* feature or *zoom and trace* feature  
to approximate  $x$ -intercepts

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#### Example 4 - Finding Solutions of an Equation Graphically

Approximate the solutions of:  $2x^3 - 3x + 2 = 0$

See p. A60; exercise 47

## **Example 5 - Approximating Solutions of an Equation Graphically**

**Approximate the solutions of :      $x^2 + 3 = 5x$**

**See p. A60; exercise 49**

## Points of Intersection of Two Graphs

solution to two different equations

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### Example 6 - Finding Points of Intersection

Find the points of intersection of :

$$2x - 3y = -2$$

$$4x - y = 6$$

Algebraic

Graphical

Use the *intersect* feature  
on the **calc** menu

See p. A61; exercise 77



## Example 7 - Approximating Points of Intersection Graphically

$$y = x^2 - 3x - 4$$

$$y = x^3 + 3x^2 - 2x - 1$$

See p. A61; exercise 81

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**NOW...**

**Try setting the two equations equal to each other**

**Move all terms to one side**

**Graph**

**How do you solve????**

## Solving Polynomial Equations Algebraically

Degree

Name

Example

***1***

---

***2***

---

***3***

---

***4***

---

***5***

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**Do you remember how to solve Quadratic Equations *Algebraically*???**

**Factoring**

$$x^2 - x - 6 = 0$$

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**Square Roots**

$$(x + 3)^2 = 16$$

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**Completing the Square**

$$x^2 + 6x = 5$$

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**Quadratic Formula**

$$2x^2 + 3x - 1 = 0$$

- The higher the degree, the more difficult the equation is to solve
- Sometimes methods used to solve quadratics can be used to solve higher degree equations

### Example 8 - Solving an Equation of Quadratic Type

$$x^4 - 3x^2 + 2 = 0$$

See p. A61; exercise 125

## **Example 9 - Solving a Polynomial by Factoring**

$$2x^3 - 6x^2 - 6x + 18 = 0$$

**See p. A61; exercise 127**

## Other Types of Equations

### **Example 10 - Solving an Equation Involving Radicals**

$$\sqrt{2x + 7} - x = 2$$

Algebraic

Graphical

**See p. A61; exercise 137**

### Example 11 - Solving an Equation Involving Two Radicals

$$\sqrt{2x + 6} - \sqrt{x + 4} = 1$$

Algebraic

Graphical

See p. A60; exercise 141

## Example 12 - Solving an Equation with Rational Exponents

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

Algebraic

Graphical

See p. A 61; exercise 143



### Example 13 - Solving an Equation Involving Fractions

$$\frac{2}{x} = \frac{3}{x-2} - 1$$

See p. A61; exercise 147

## Example 14 - Solving an Equation Involving Absolute Value

$$|x^2 - 3x| = -4x + 6$$

Algebraic

Graphical

See p. A62; exercise 153