

## Answer on Question #44020 – Engineering – Other

Find the Inverse of these Functions:

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x} + 1$$

$$f(x) = x^2 + x - 1$$

$$f(x) = 2x - 4$$

$$f(x) = (4-x) / (3+x)$$

### Solution:

Given the function  $f(x)$  we want to find the inverse function,  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

1. First, replace  $f(x)$  with  $y$ . This is done to make the rest of the process easier.
2. Replace every  $x$  with a  $y$  and replace every  $y$  with an  $x$ .
3. Solve the equation from Step 2 for  $y$ . This is the step where mistakes are most often made so be careful with this step.
4. Replace  $y$  with  $f^{-1}(x)$ . In other words, we've managed to find the inverse at this point.

#### #1

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x} + 1$$

$$y = \sqrt{x} + 1$$

Next, replace all  $x$ 's with  $y$  and all  $y$ 's with  $x$ :

$$x = \sqrt{y} + 1$$

Now, solve for  $y$ :

$$\sqrt{y} = x - 1$$

$$y = (x - 1)^2$$

Finally replace  $y$  with  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

$$f^{-1}(x) = (x - 1)^2, x \geq 0$$

#### #2

$$f(x) = x^2 + x - 1$$

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

Next, replace all  $x$ 's with  $y$  and all  $y$ 's with  $x$ :

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

Now, solve for  $y$ :

$$y^2 + y - (1 + x) = 0$$

$$y = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 + 4(1 + x)}}{2}$$

Finally replace  $y$  with  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{5 + 4x}}{2}, x \geq -\frac{5}{4}$$

#### #3

$$f(x) = 2x - 4$$

$$y = 2x - 4$$

Next, replace all x's with y and all y's with x:

$$x = 2y - 4$$

Now, solve for y:

$$2y = x + 4$$

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

Finally replace y with  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{x + 4}{2}$$

**#4**

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

$$y = \frac{4 - x}{3} + x$$

Next, replace all x's with y and all y's with x:

$$x = \frac{4 - y}{3} + y$$

Now, solve for y:

$$3x = 4 - y + 3y$$

$$3x = 4 + 2y$$

$$y = \frac{3x - 4}{2}$$

Finally replace y with  $f^{-1}(x)$ .

$$f^{-1}(x) = \frac{3x - 4}{2}$$