

Mathematics: Quadratic Functions and Graphs

Introduction to Quadratic Functions

A quadratic function is a polynomial function of degree 2.

The general form is: $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$

Where a , b , and c are constants, and $a \neq 0$.

Key Features of Quadratic Functions:

1. Vertex: The highest or lowest point on the parabola
2. Axis of Symmetry: A vertical line that divides the parabola
3. Roots/Zeros: The x-intercepts where function equals zero
4. Y-intercept: The point where graph crosses y-axis

Solving Quadratic Equations:

1. Factoring: Express as product of two binomials
2. Quadratic Formula: $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$
3. Completing the Square: Transform to perfect square form
4. Graphing: Find x-intercepts on the graph

Real-World Applications:

1. Projectile Motion: Path of thrown object follows parabola
2. Optimization: Finding max/min values in business
3. Architecture: Designing arches and bridges
4. Economics: Modeling profit and cost functions

IMPORTANT: This PDF contains visual diagrams and graphs that are essential for understanding quadratic functions.

The graphs show the parabolic shape, vertex points, roots, and real-world applications like projectile motion.

Visual Content: This document includes mathematical graphs and diagrams that help illustrate the concepts.

These visual aids are crucial for understanding the material.