

# Intercepts of the Quadratic

Given a quadratic  $k(d) = a d^2 + b d + c$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$$

**Case1:  $\Delta > 0$**

$d_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$  computes the d-intercepts of multiplicity 1.  
 $k(0) = c$  computes the single k-intercept.

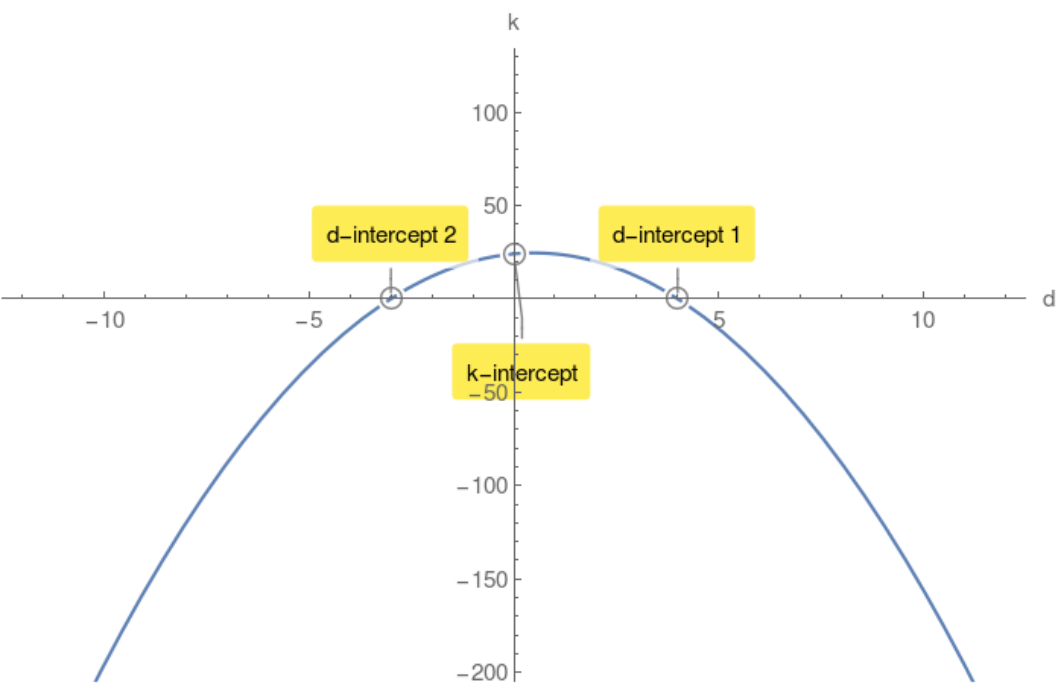
**Example 1.**

$k(d) = -2d^2 + 2d + 24$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = 196 > 0$$

$$d_{1,2} = 4, -3$$

$k(0) = 24$  k-intercept.



**Case2:  $\Delta = 0$**

$d_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-b \pm 0}{2a} = \frac{-b}{2a}$  single d-intercept of multiplicity 2.

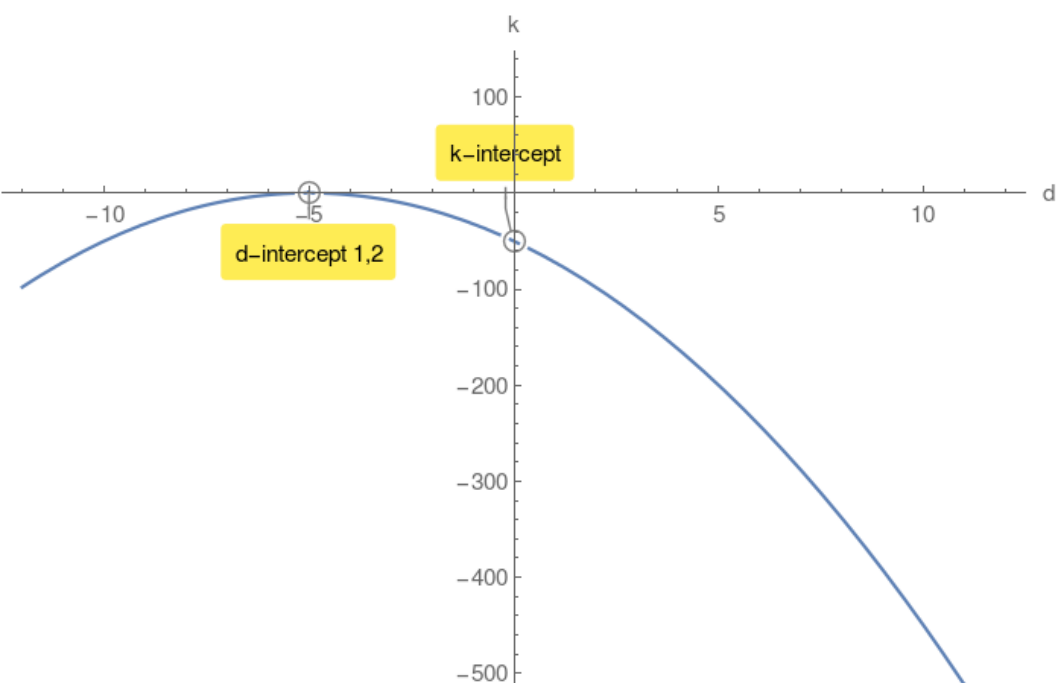
**Example 2.**

$k(d) = -2d^2 - 20d - 50$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = 0$$

$$d_{1,2} = -5, -5$$

$k(0) = -50$  k-intercept.



**Case3:  $\Delta < 0$**

$\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}$  has no value in Real Numbers. Therefore there are no d-intercepts.  
However there is a k-intercept.

**Example 3.**

$k(d) = 9d^2 + 162d + 810$  compute its discriminant  $\Delta$ :

$$\Delta = -2916 < 0$$

$k(0) = 810$  k-intercept.

