

Algebra 2      2.6

\*Algebra 1

Write and graph piecewise defined functions

Write and graph step functions

Write and graph absolute value functions

domain\*

range\*

piecewise function

step function

    greatest integer function (tricky)

absolute value function\*

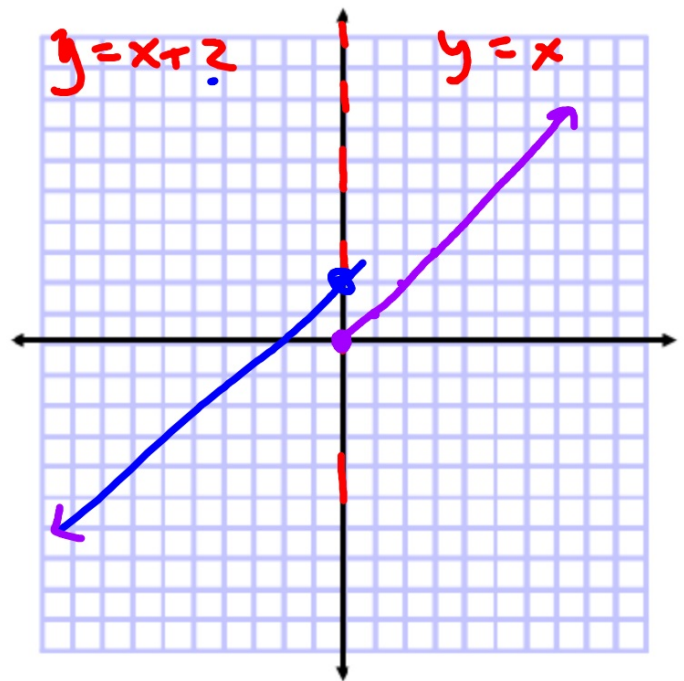
**Guided Practice**

1. Graph  $f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 2 & \text{if } x < 0 \\ x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$ . Identify the domain and range.

D: ARN

R: ARN

Piecewise



Absolute value: distance from zero (can't be negative)

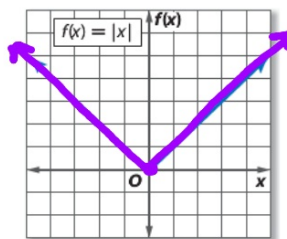
**KeyConcept** Parent Function of Absolute Value Functions

Algebra 1

Parent function:  $f(x) = |x|$ , defined as

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Type of graph: V-shaped  
 Domain: all real numbers  
 Range: all nonnegative real numbers  
 Intercepts:  $x = 0, f(x) = 0$   
 Not defined:  $f(x) < 0$



D:  $\mathbb{R}$   
 R:  $y \geq 0$

$$y = -x + 2 \quad x < 0$$

$$y = x + 2 \quad x \geq 0$$

$$y = |x| + 2$$

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
----	----	----	---	---	---	---

► **Guided Practice 4A, 4B. See margin.**

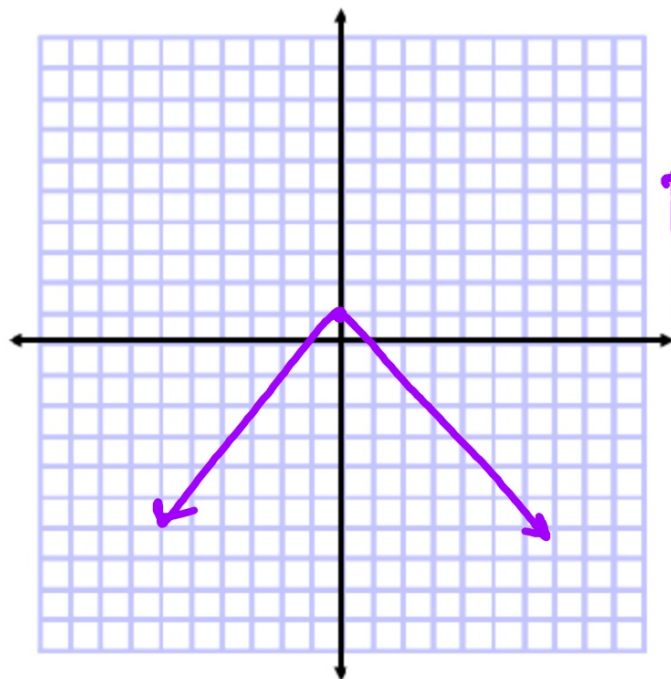
Graph each function. Identify the domain and range.

4A.  $f(x) = |x - 2|$

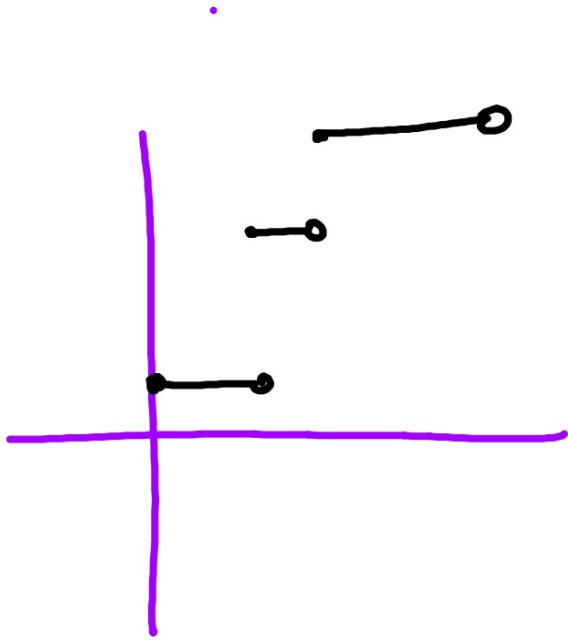
4B.  $f(x) = -|x| + 1$

D:  $\mathbb{R}$

R:  $y \geq 0$

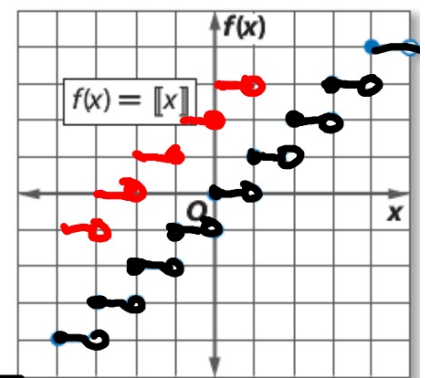


D:  $\mathbb{R}$   
R:  $y \leq 1$



Step function: (informally, it is a floor function)

The **greatest integer function**, written  $f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor$ , is one kind of step function. The symbol  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  means the greatest integer less than or equal to  $x$ . For example,  $\lfloor 3.25 \rfloor = 3$  and  $\lfloor -4.6 \rfloor = -5$ .



D:  $\mathbb{R}$   $\mathbb{N}$   $\lfloor 3 \rfloor$   $\lfloor 4 \rfloor$   
R: integers  $\lfloor 3.1 \rfloor$  \_

**StudyTip**

**Greatest Integer Function**

Notice that the domain of this step function is all real numbers and the range is all integers.

→ Recognize as a specific subtype of step function **G.I.F.**  
Be able to tell domain and range--that's all

Step  $f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor + 3$

2. 6WB  
(prac.)

3.  $f(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor$

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