

Math-2A  
Lesson 4-10

The Absolute Value Function

Transformation: an adjustment made to the parent function that results in a change to the graph of the parent function.

Changes could include:

shifting the graph up or down,

Shifting the graph left or right

vertical stretching or shrinking

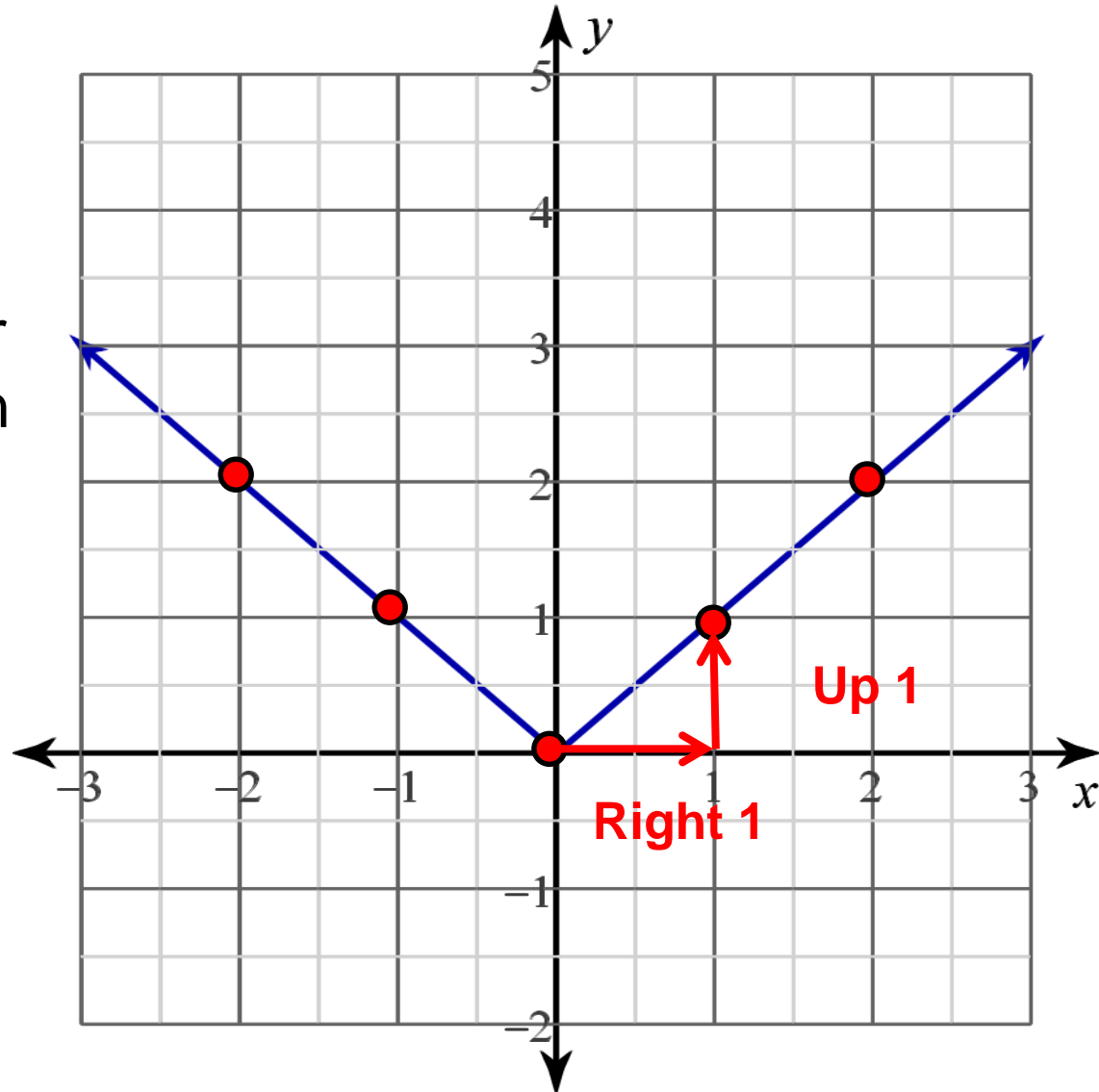
Reflecting across x-axis or y-axis

# Absolute Value Function

$$f(x) = |x|$$

Build a table of values for each equation for domain elements: -2, -1, 0, 1, 2.

x	y
-2	2
-1	1
0	0
1	1
2	2



$$f(x) = |x|$$

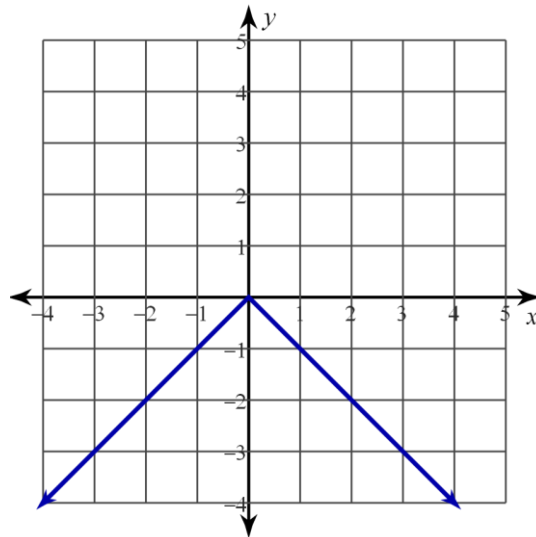
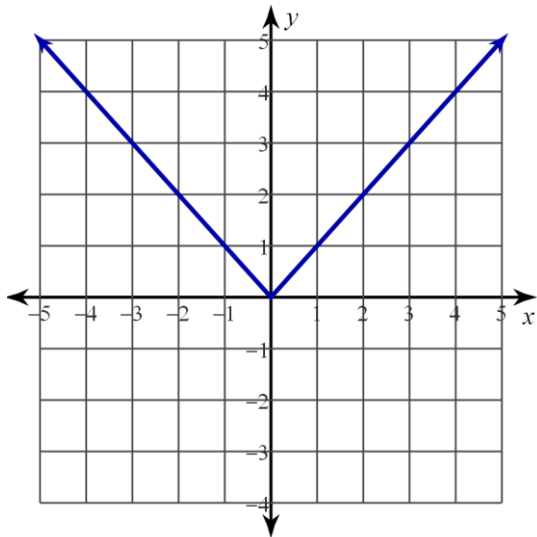
x	y
-2	2
-1	1
0	0
1	1
2	2

$$g(x) = -|x|$$

x	y
-2	-2
-1	-1
0	0
1	-1
2	-2

Multiplying the parent function by -1 reflects it across the x-axis.

What is the vertex?



$$f(x) = |x|$$

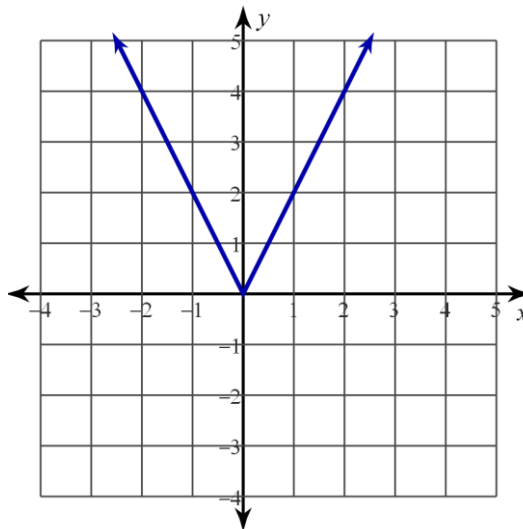
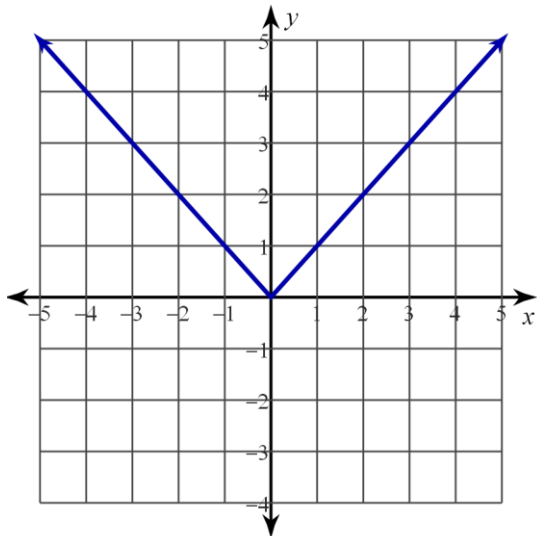
x	y
-2	2
-1	1
0	0
1	1
2	2

$$g(x) = 2|x|$$

x	y
-2	4
-1	2
0	0
1	2
2	4

Multiplying the parent function by 2 makes each y-value of the parent 2 times as big; VSF = 2

What is the vertex?



$$f(x) = |x|$$

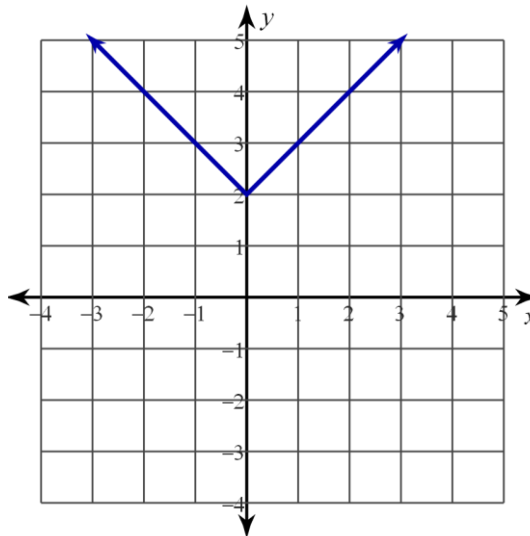
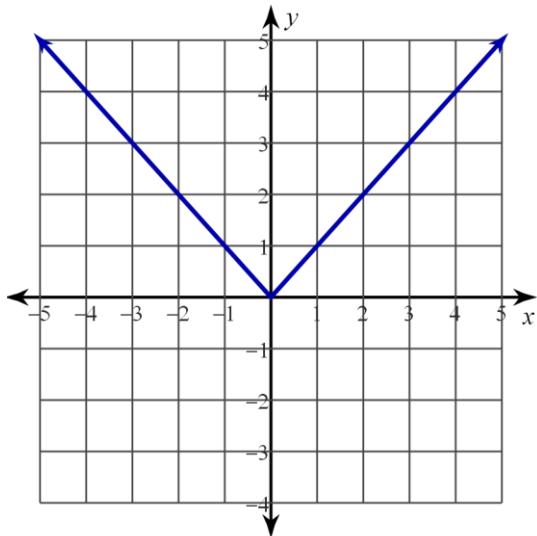
x	y
-2	2
-1	1
0	0
1	1
2	2

$$g(x) = |x| + 2$$

x	y
-2	4
-1	3
0	2
1	3
2	4

Adding 2 to the parent function causes the graph to translate up 2

What is the vertex?



$$f(x) = |x|$$

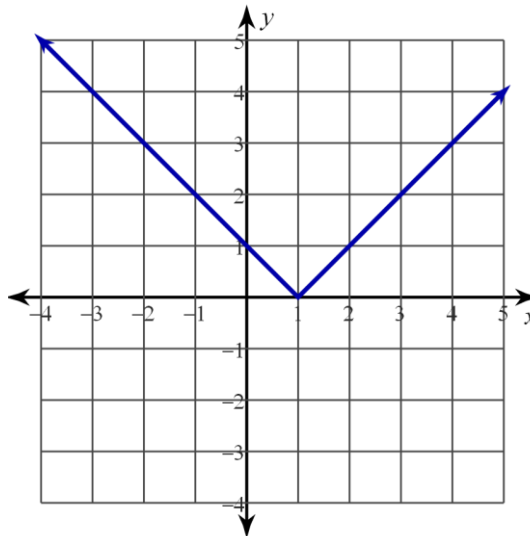
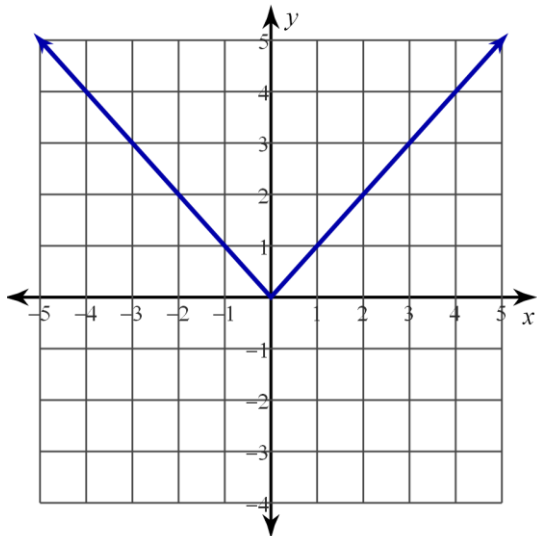
$$g(x) = |x - 1|$$

x	y
-2	2
-1	1
0	0
1	1
2	2

x	y
-2	3
-1	2
0	1
1	0
2	1

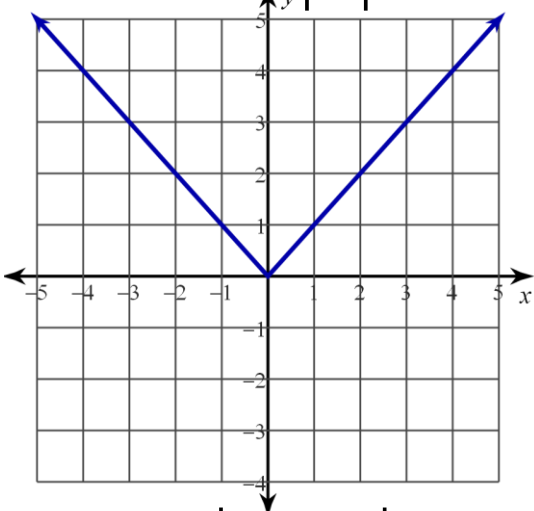
Replacing 'x' in the parent function with 'x - 1' causes the graph to translate right '1'

What is the vertex?



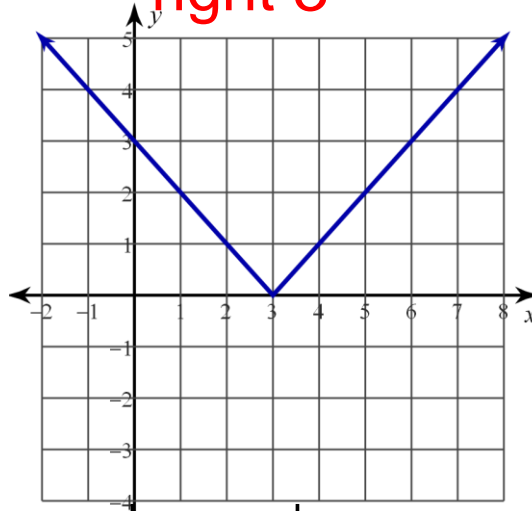
# What is the transformation to the parent function?

$$y = |x|$$



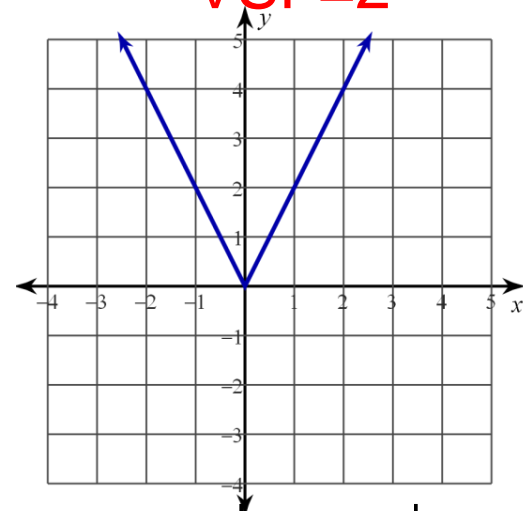
$$y = |x - 3|$$

right 3



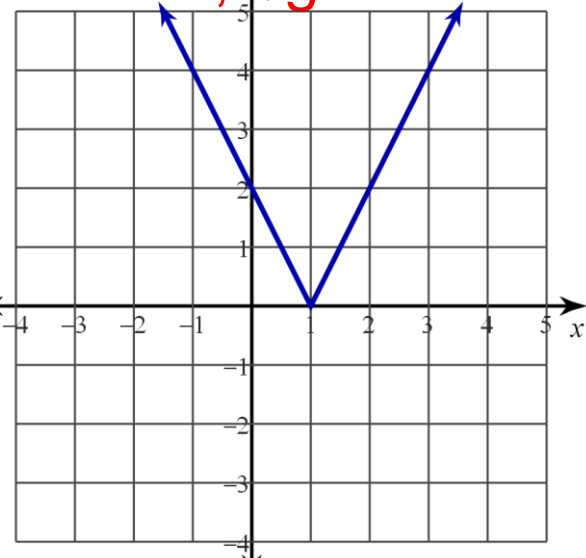
$$y = 2|x|$$

VSF=2



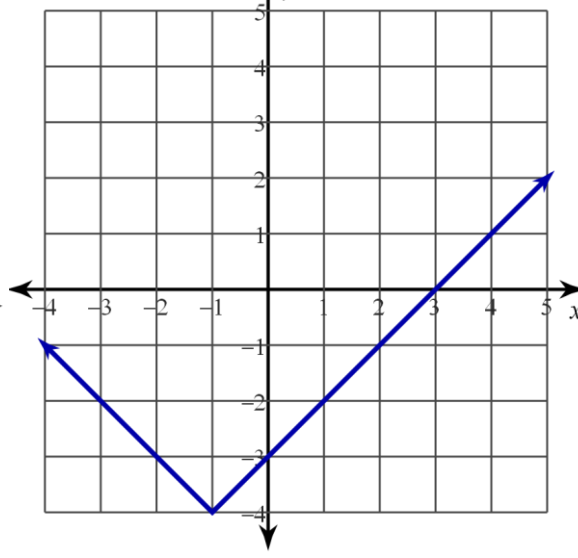
$$y = 2|x - 1|$$

VSF=2, right 1



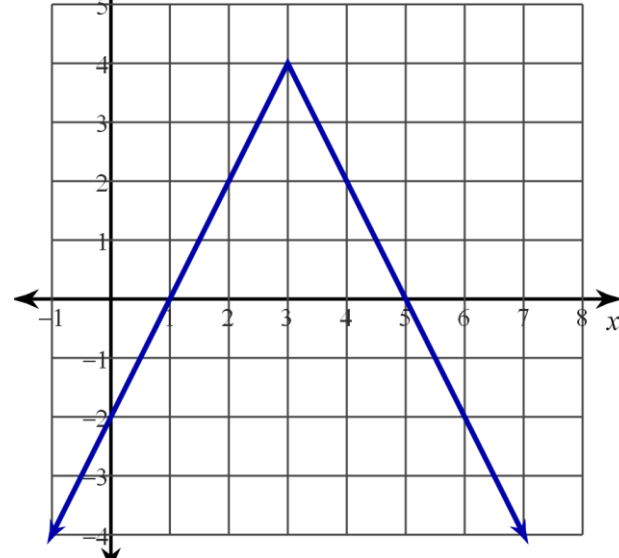
$$y = |x + 1| - 4$$

left 1, down 4



$$y = -2|x - 3| + 4$$

reflect x, VSF=2, right 3, up 4





**Reflection  
across x-axis**

**Vertical  
stretch  
factor**

**Shift  
left/right**

**shift up or  
down**

$$y = |x|$$

$$y = (-1)a|x - h| + k$$

$$f(x) = |x| + k$$

**Vertical shift**

$$f(x) = -5|x - 2| + 3$$

reflected (x-axis)

VSF=5, right 2 up 3

$$f(x) = |x - h|$$

**Horizontal shift**

$$f(x) = a|x|$$

**Vertical stretch**

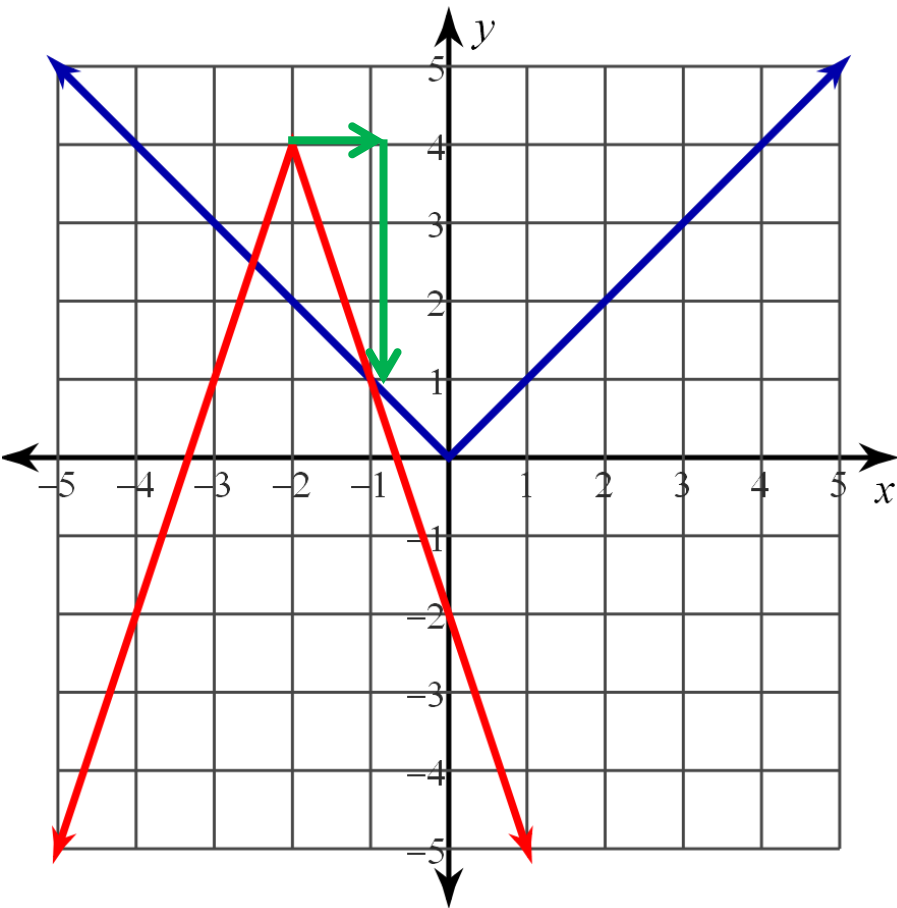
$$f(x) = -|x|$$

**Reflection across x-axis**

To compare the equation to the graph:  $f(x) = |x|$

1) Move the vertex left/right and up/down

Vertex has moved left 2 and up 4.  $g(x) = |x + 2| + 4$



2) Shape of the graph: from the vertex move right 1, then up/down by the VSF.

From the Vertex move right 1, then to reach the graph you must move down 3

Reflect x-axis, VSF=3.

$$g(x) = -3|x + 2| + 4$$