

Do I need to graph  $f(x) = x^2 - x - 12$  to know when the function is below the x-axis (negative), or above the x-axis (positive)?

### Solving a Quadratic Inequality

**Step 1:** Solve the corresponding quadratic equation

**Step 2:** Identify the intervals determined by the solutions of the equation

**Step 3:** Use a test value from each interval to determine which intervals form the solution set

1. Solve the following:

a.  $x^2 - x - 12 < 0$

b.  $2x^2 + 5x - 12 \geq 0$

2. If a projectile is launched from ground level with an initial velocity of 96 ft per sec, its height  $s$  in feet  $t$  seconds after launching is given by the following equation,  $s = -16t^2 + 96t$ . When will the projectile be greater than 80 ft above ground level?

### Solving a Rational Inequality

**Step 1:** Rewrite the inequality, if necessary, so that 0 is on one side and there is a single fraction on the other side.

**Step 2:** Determine the values that will cause either the numerator or the denominator to equal 0.

\*These are the values to consider on the number line

**Step 3:** Use a test value from each interval to determine which intervals form the solution set.

**Caution:**

- a value causing a denominator to equal zero is not in the solution
- A value causing the numerator to equal zero will be included in the solution if the inequality is “equal to”

3. Solve the following:

a.  $\frac{2}{x-3} \geq 0$

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b.  $\frac{5}{x+4} \geq 1$

c.  $\frac{2x-1}{3x+4} < 5$

d.  $\frac{5}{x+1} > \frac{12}{x+1}$