

# Vertex to Standard Form of a Quadratic

Standard form of a quadratic:

$$y = ax^2 + bx + c$$



a is the vertical  
stretch/compression  
(the same as vertex form)



c is the y-intercept

The  $x^2$  always goes first, followed by  $x$ , and the constant is last.

The x-coordinate of the vertex of a parabola in standard form can be found by using:

$$x = \frac{-b}{2a}$$

Find the x-coordinate of the vertex for the equation:  $y = 3x^2 - 4x + 1$

$$x = \frac{-b}{2a}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-4)}{2(3)}$$

$$x = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

Use order of operation (PEMDAS) to convert from vertex to standard form:

- 1) Square the parenthesis (Exponents)
- 2) Distribute the a (Multiplication)
- 3) Combine like terms (Add/Subtract)

Convert to standard form:  $y = -2(x - 4)^2 + 3$

$$(x - 4)(x - 4)$$

$$x^2 - 4x - 4x + 16$$

$$x^2 - 8x + 16$$

$$y = -2(x^2 - 8x + 16) + 3$$

$$y = -2x^2 + 16x - 32 + 3$$

$$y = -2x^2 + 16x - 29$$

Re-write  $(x - 4)^2$  as  
 $(x - 4)(x - 4)$  and FOIL

Substitute  $x^2 - 8x + 16$   
in for  $(x - 4)^2$

Distribute the -2

Combine like terms

Convert to standard form:  $y - 4 = \frac{1}{2}(x + 3)^2$

$$(x + 3)(x + 3)$$

$$x^2 + 3x + 3x + 9$$

$$x^2 + 6x + 9$$

$$y - 4 = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + 6x + 9)$$

$$y - 4 = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 3x + 4.5$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 3x + 8.5$$

Re-write  $(x + 3)^2$  as  
 $(x + 3)(x + 3)$  and FOIL

Substitute  $x^2 + 6x + 9$  in  
for  $(x + 3)^2$

Distribute the  $\frac{1}{2}$

Add 4 to both side

Convert to standard form:  $y = \frac{-1}{3}(2x - 6)^2 - 6$

$$(2x - 6)(2x - 6)$$

$$4x^2 - 12x - 12x + 36$$

$$4x^2 - 24x + 36$$

Re-write  $(2x - 6)^2$  as  
 $(2x - 6)(2x - 6)$  and FOIL

$$y = \frac{-1}{3}(4x^2 - 24x + 36) - 6$$

Sub.  $4x^2 - 24x + 36$  in  
for  $(2x - 6)^2$

$$y = \frac{-4}{3}x^2 + 8x - 12 - 6$$

Distribute the  $\frac{-1}{3}$

$$y = \frac{-4}{3}x^2 + 8x - 18$$

Combine like terms