

Solving Rational Inequalities

1. Solve the following using a factors chart (number line strategy).

$$x-3 \geq \frac{10}{x}$$

$$x \frac{(x-3) - \frac{10}{x}}{(1) x} \geq 0$$


$$\frac{x^2 - 3x - 10}{x} \geq 0$$

x-ints → $(x-5)(x+2) \geq 0$
V.A. → x
X-ints: 5 & -2
V.A. @ x=0
we want the positives

	(x-int) x=-2	(V.A.) x=0	(x-int) x=5	
x-5	-	-	-	+
x+2	-	+	+	+
x	-	-	+	+
	-	(+)	-	(+)

$-2 \leq x < 0$ $x \geq 5$

do not include x=0 since there is a V.A. @ that location



2. Solve the following inequality by using graphing methods.

$$\frac{x-4}{x-2} \geq \frac{x+6}{x+4}$$

$$\frac{(x+4)(x-4) - (x+6)(x-2)}{(x+4)(x-2)} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{(x^2-16) - (x^2+4x-12)}{(x+4)(x-2)} \geq 0$$

$$\frac{-4x-4}{(x+4)(x-2)} \geq 0$$

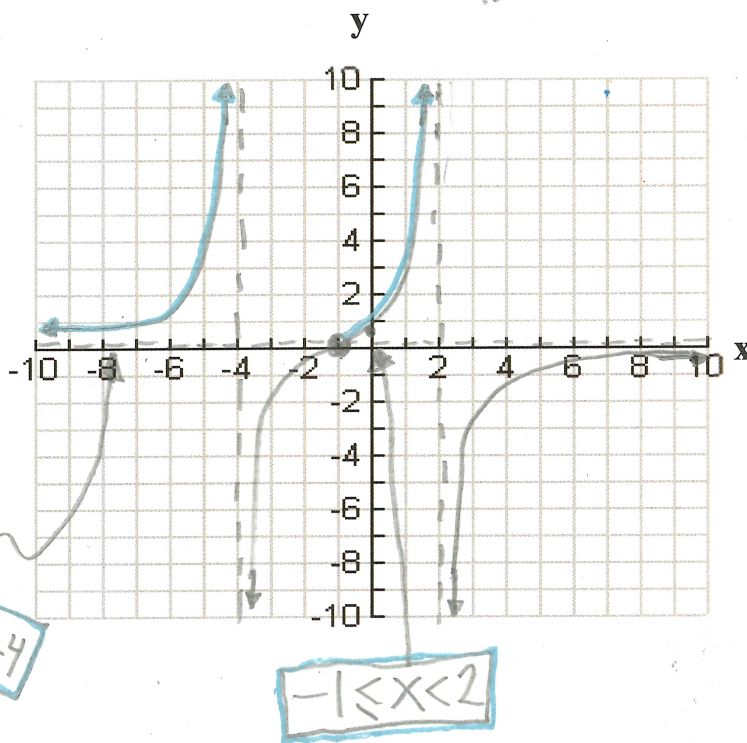
$$\frac{-4(x+1)}{(x+4)(x-2)} \geq 0$$

V.A. @ x=-4, 2
H.A. @ y=0
x-ints = -1
y-int = 1/2

Graph $Y = \frac{-4(x+1)}{(x+4)(x-2)}$

looking for $Y \geq 0$

$x < -4$ $-1 \leq x < 2$



* Suggestion: Do NOT use "cross multiplication" and/or "multiplying through" when solving rational inequalities. *