

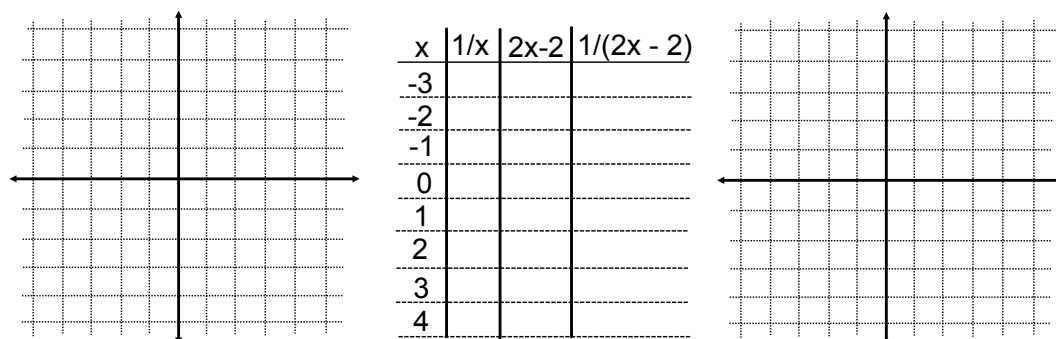
## 7.4 Reciprocal Functions

\* If  $y = f(x)$  is a function, then its  function is defined by  $y = \frac{1}{f(x)}$ .

In this case, the reciprocal function has a restriction on its domain everywhere that  $f(x) = \text{$

\*  $y = \frac{1}{x}$  is the mother function of all inverse functions.

ex. Graph  $y = x$  and its inverse as well as  $y = 2x - 2$  and its inverse.



What happens at  $x = 0$ ?

What happens at  $x = 1$ ?

We call these

Def<sup>n</sup>: a  is a line that a function  without ever crossing it. A

Do either graphs cross the x-axis?

We call these

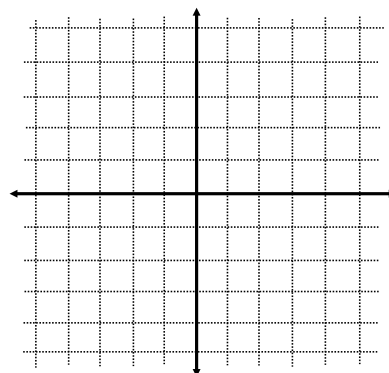
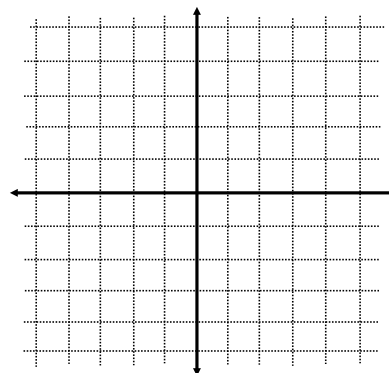
is similar but can occasionally be crossed.

\* For any inverse function, the  will result in vertical asymptotes (or holes... but we shouldn't see that until PC12).

\* To graph an inverse function:

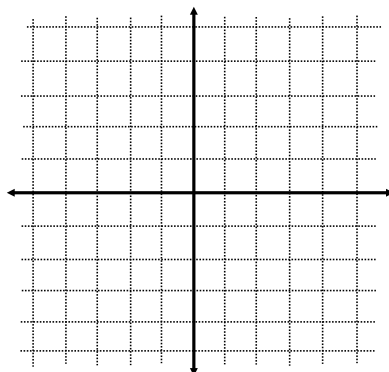
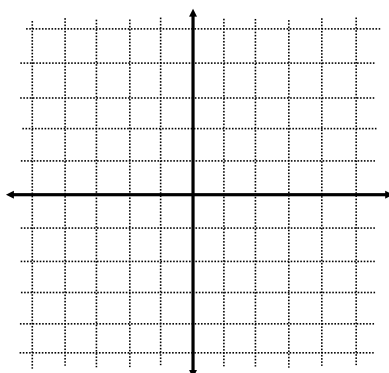
- 1) graph the base function  $y = f(x)$  and determine its zeroes
- 2) Use a dotted line to show the vertical asymptotes. These will occur wherever  $f(x)$  crosses the x-axis.
- 3) Determine the invariant points. These occur where  $f(x)$  crosses the lines  $y = 1$  and  $y = -1$
- 4) Do not make a table of values! Remember:
  - When  $f(x)$  gets large, the inverse function approaches zero
  - When  $f(x)$  gets small the inverse function approaches infinity
  - When  $f(x)$  is positive, the inverse function is also positive
  - When  $f(x)$  is negative the inverse function is also negative
  - Make sure your inverse function never crosses a vertical asymptote

ex. graph  $y = \frac{1}{2x - 5}$



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ex. graph  $y = \frac{1}{x^2 + 2x - 3}$



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