

Formulas for the Vertex and Axis of Symmetry

The graph of $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ is a parabola.

The axis of symmetry has equation

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

The vertex is the point $\left(-\frac{b}{2a}, f\left(-\frac{b}{2a}\right)\right)$

$$f(x) = a(x-h)^2 + k$$

vertex: (h, k)

axis of symmetry: $x = h$

Example: Find the axis of symmetry and vertex of $f(x) = 3x^2 + 12x + 16$