

## The Quadratic Formula

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

use for finding solutions (roots) to equations of the form:

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are numbers, and  $a \neq 0$

- Solve  $x^2 + 3x - 4 = 0$

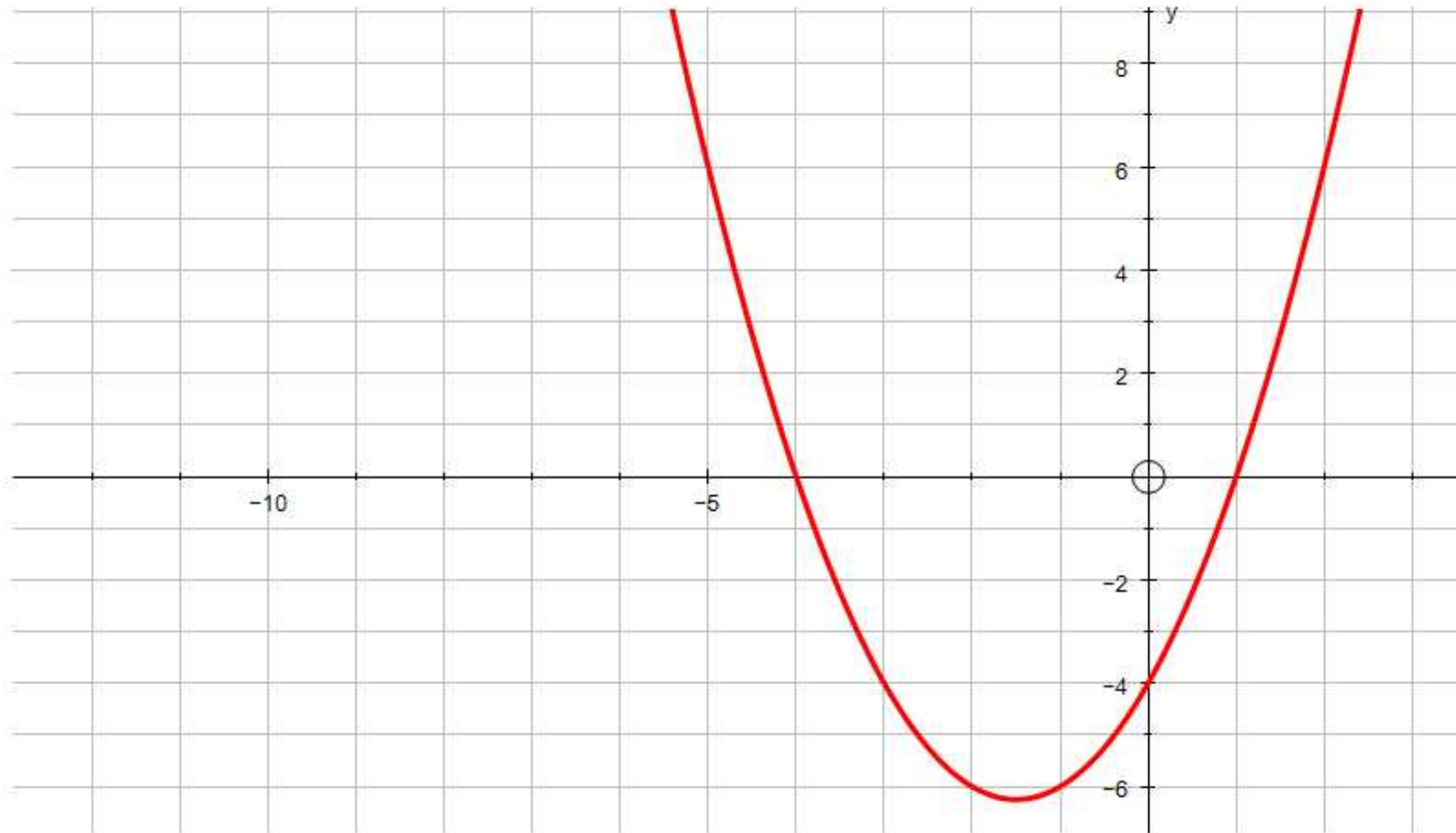
This quadratic happens to factor:

$$x^2 + 3x - 4 = (x + 4)(x - 1) = 0$$

...so I already know that the solutions are  $x = -4$  and  $x = 1$ . How would my solution look in the Quadratic Formula? Using  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 3$ , and  $c = -4$ , my solution looks like this:

$$\begin{aligned}x &= \frac{-(3) \pm \sqrt{(3)^2 - 4(1)(-4)}}{2(1)} \\&= \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9+16}}{2} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{25}}{2} \\&= \frac{-3 \pm 5}{2} = \frac{-3-5}{2}, \frac{-3+5}{2} \\&= \frac{-8}{2}, \frac{2}{2} = -4, 1 = x\end{aligned}$$

Then, as expected, the solution is  $x = -4, x = 1$ .



Example 1:  $y = ax^2 + x^3 - 4$

## Steps for solving a quadratic equation

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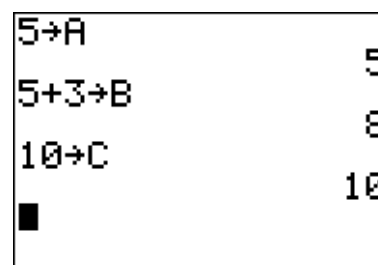
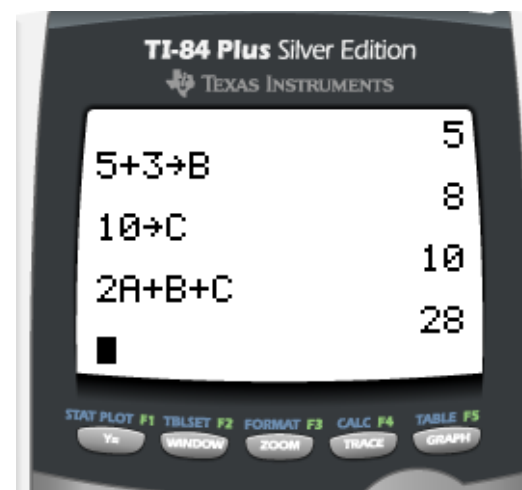
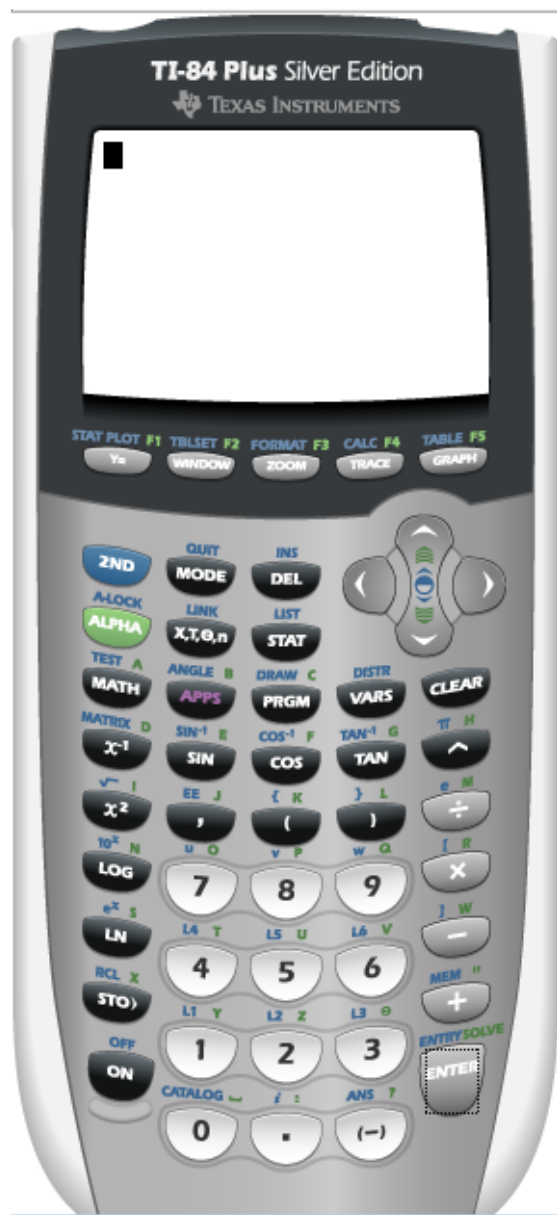
1) Identify a value for a

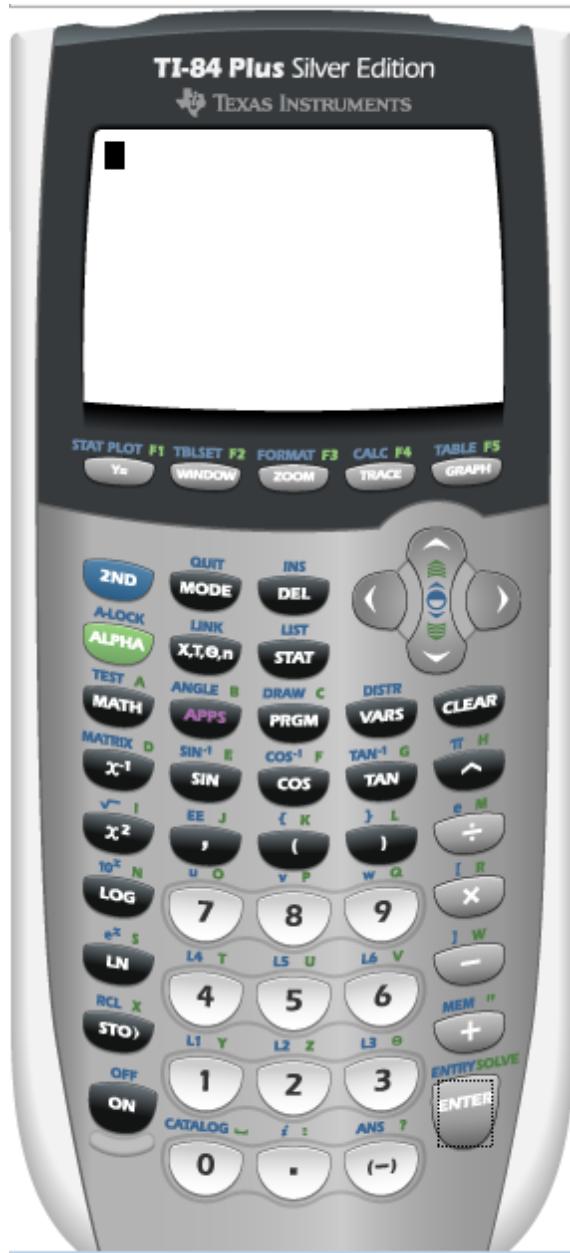
2) Identify a value for b

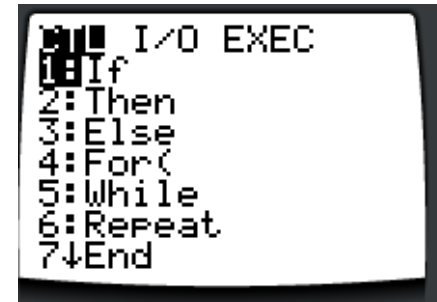
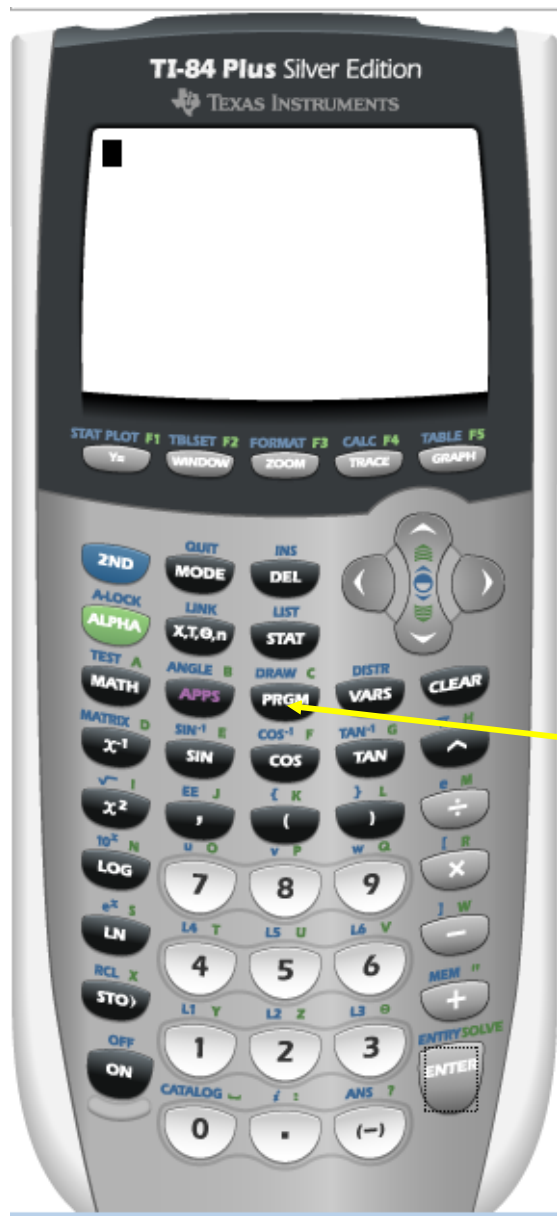
3) Identify a value of c

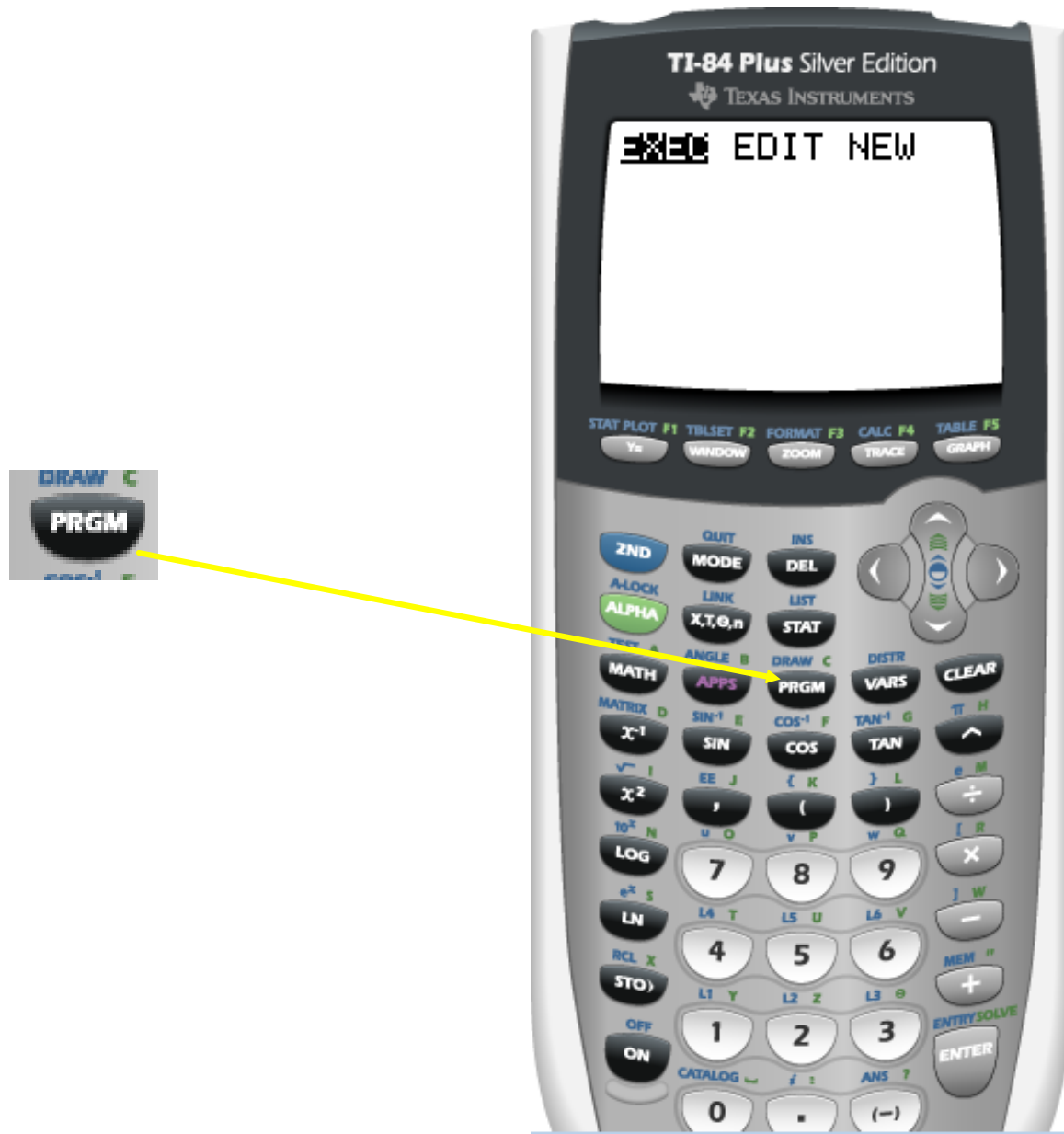
4) calculate  $b^2 - 4ac$ 5) calculate  $\frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ 6) calculate  $\frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ 

$$x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$











```
PROGRAM: QUAD1  
: ■
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■ I/O EXEC  
1: If  
2: Then  
3: Else  
4: For(  
5: While  
6: Repeat  
7↓End
```

```
CTL  EXEC  
1: Input  
2: Prompt  
3: Disp  
4: DispGraph  
5: DispTable  
6: Output(  
7↓getKey
```

```
CTL I/O  EXEC  
1: QUAD1
```

