

MATH 160 Session 4

Some special functions:

A function defined by a rule of the form $f(x) = mx + b$ where m and b are constants is a **linear function**.

A function defined by a rule of the form $f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$ where a , b , and c are constants and $a \neq 0$ is called a **quadratic**, or **second degree**, function.

A function defined by a rule of the form $f(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_2 x^2 + a_1 x^1 + a_0$ where each a_i is a constant and $a_n \neq 0$ is called a **polynomial function of degree n** .

1. Sketch a graph of each of these quadratic functions on the same pair of axes.

- a. $f(x) = x^2$ b. $g(x) = 2x^2$ c. $h(x) = 3x^2$ d. $j(x) = 0.5x^2$
e. $k(x) = -x^2$ f. $m(x) = -2x^2$ g. $n(x) = -3x^2$ h. $p(x) = -0.5x^2$

