

Sec 3.6

Polynomial Inequalities - beyond quadratic

Solve- $x^3 + x^2 \leq 4x + 4$

$$(x^3 + x^2)(4x - 4) \leq 0$$

$\begin{array}{c} (-)(-) \\ (-) \\ (-) \end{array}$ | + + +

$\begin{array}{c} (+) \\ (+) \\ (-) \end{array}$ | + + +

-2 -1 2

$x^2(x+1) - 4(x+1)$

$(x+1)(x+2)(x-2) \leq 0$

$x = -1, 2, -2$

(-3) (+5) 0 3

- + - +

(-\infty, -2] \cup [-1, 2]

Steps were-

1. get a zero
2. factor by grouping
3. use the zeros/critical numbers on your number line
4. test using test numbers in each interval
(circled in blue)
5. determine sign (+ or -) for each interval
6. determine interval answer

Suggested Practice

Sec 3.6
31,33,35,41

If one of your factors is a constant, it must be included when you are testing each interval.

$$31. [0, 3] \cup [5, \infty) \quad 35. [-2, -1] \cup [1, \infty)$$

$$33. (-\infty, 2) \cup (2, \frac{7}{2}) \quad 41. \{0\} \cup [9, \infty)$$