

# Absolute Value Inequalities

2-7

These turn into AND or OR compound inequalities:

$$|x| > 3$$



$$x > 3$$

$$x < -3$$

Think about solution sets

$$x > 3 \text{ OR } x < -3$$

graph and write solution set

$$|x-4| < 3$$

$$x-4 < 3$$

+4   +4

$$x < 7$$

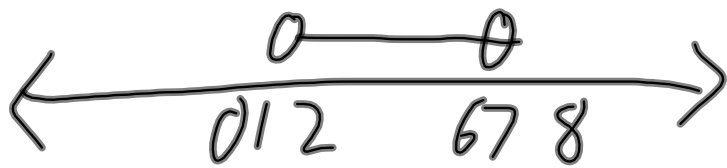
solve and graph

$$| < x < 7$$

$$x-4 > -3$$

+4   +4

$$x > 1$$



## Rules for absolute value inequalities

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① Get absolute value by itself

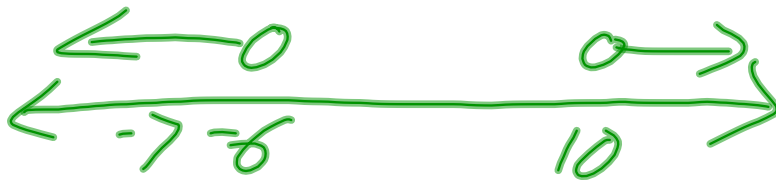
$$\begin{array}{c} 9 < |x-2| + 1 \\ -1 \qquad -1 \\ \hline 8 < |x-2| \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 8 < x-2 \\ +2 \qquad +2 \\ \hline 10 < x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} -8 > x-2 \\ +2 \qquad +2 \\ \hline -6 > x \end{array}$$

$$x > 10$$
$$10 < x$$

$$-6 > x$$



② Make sure absolute value is on left side

$$8 < |x-2| \quad \text{switch}$$

$$|x-2| > 8$$

③ @ If absolute value is  $>$  or  $\geq$   
write an **OR** compound

$$|x-2| > 8$$

$$x-2 > 8 \text{ or } x-2 < -8$$

solve and graph

switch sign and  
take opposite #

If  $| \text{absolute value} |$  is  $<$  or  $\leq$  write an **AND** compound inequality

$$\textcircled{1} |3x+6| \geq 12$$

*solve, graph  
and check*

$$\textcircled{2} |2x-3| >>$$

$$\textcircled{3} 3|2x+6|-9 < 15$$

$$\textcircled{4} |5z+3|-7 < 34$$



$$\textcircled{1} |3x+6| \geq 12$$

$$3x+6 \geq 12$$
$$\quad -6 \quad -6$$

$$\frac{3x}{3} \geq \frac{6}{3}$$

$$x \geq 2$$

(check)

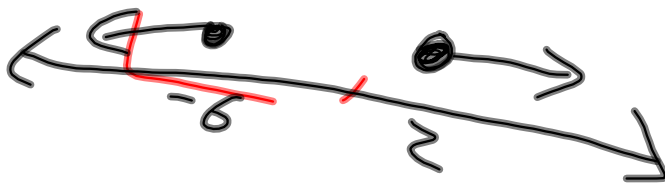
$$|3(-7)+6| \geq 12 \quad |-15| \geq 12$$
$$15 \geq 12 \checkmark$$

$$|3(3)+6| \geq 12$$
$$15 \geq 12$$

$$3x+6 \leq -12$$
$$\quad -6 \quad -6$$

$$\frac{3x}{3} \leq \frac{-18}{3}$$

$$x \leq -6$$



$$|2x-3| > 9 \quad \text{(Check)}$$

$$|2(-3)-3| > 9$$

$$|-9| > 9 \quad 9 > 9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$2x-3 > 9$$

$$+3 \quad +3$$

$$2(-6)-3 > 9 \quad 9 > 9 \quad \checkmark$$

$$2x-3 < -9$$

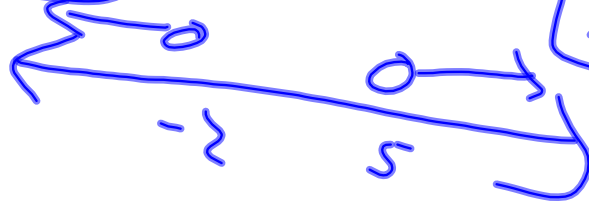
$$+3 \quad +3$$

$$2x < -6$$

$$2x > 10$$

$$x > 5$$

$$x < -2$$



$$\textcircled{3} \quad 3|2x+6|-9 < 15 \quad 9 < 15$$

+9   +9

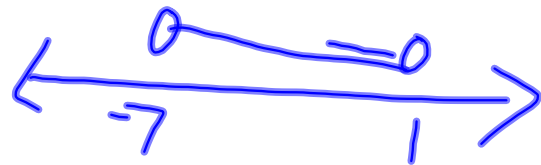
$$\frac{3|2x+6|}{3} < \frac{24}{3}$$

$$|2x+6| < 8$$

$$2x+6 < 8$$

$$2x < 2$$

$$x < 1$$



$$2x+6 > -8$$

$$2x > -14$$

$$x > -7$$

$$-7 < x < 1$$

$$\textcircled{4} |5z+3| - 7 < 34$$

$$+7 \quad +7$$

$$|5z+3| < 41$$

$$5z+3 < 41$$

$$\quad -3 \quad -3$$

$$\frac{5z}{5} < \frac{38}{5}$$

$$z < \frac{38}{5}$$

$$z < 7\frac{3}{5}$$

$$5z+3 > -41$$

$$\quad -3 \quad -3$$

$$\frac{5z}{5} > \frac{-44}{5}$$

$$z > -4\frac{4}{5}$$

$$z > -8\frac{1}{5}$$



$$\left| 3x + \frac{5}{8} \right| < -4$$

$\emptyset$  or  $\{ \}$

$$|2x+9| + 5 > 3$$

Isolate absolute value first

$$|2x+9| > -2$$

Absolute value is always positive  
so solution is all real #s.

$$(-\infty, \infty) \quad \{x/x \text{ is a real \#}\}$$