

## Section 1.9 Polynomial and Rational Inequalities

### Objective 1: Solving Polynomial Inequalities

#### Steps for Solving Polynomial Inequalities

- Step 1:** Move all terms to one side of the inequality leaving 0 on the other side.
- Step 2:** Factor the nonzero side of the inequality.
- Step 3:** Find all boundary points by setting the factored polynomial equal to zero.
- Step 4:** Plot the boundary points on a number line. If the inequality is  $\leq$  or  $\geq$ , use a solid circle ●. If the inequality is  $<$  or  $>$ , use an open circle ○.
- Step 5:** Now that the number line is divided into intervals, pick a test value from each interval.
- Step 6:** Substitute the test value into the polynomial and determine whether the expression is positive or negative on the interval.
- Step 7:** Determine the intervals that satisfy the inequality.

1.9.6

Solve the inequality. Write the solution in interval notation.

The solution is \_\_\_\_\_.

1.9.10

Solve the inequality. Write the solution in interval notation.

The solution is \_\_\_\_\_.

## Section 1.9b Rational Inequalities

### Objective 2: Solving Rational Inequalities

A rational inequality can be solved using a technique similar to the one used to solve a polynomial inequality except that the boundary points are found by setting both the polynomial in the numerator and the denominator equal to zero.

Since division by zero is **never** permitted, the boundary points that are found by setting the polynomial in the denominator equal to zero must always be represented by an **open circle** on the number line.



**You cannot multiply both sides of the inequality by a variable term to clear the fraction. It is necessary to move all terms to one side, combine terms over a common denominator, and proceed as above.**

1.9. 14

Solve the inequality. Express the answer using interval notation.

1.9.16

Solve the inequality. Express the solution using interval notation.

1.9.18

Solve the inequality. Express the solution using interval notation