

Section 3: The modulus function

Crucial points

1. Check that you have the right number of solutions

Be careful when solving equations involving a modulus function that you have the correct number of solutions. Sketching a graph is helpful, and you should also check your solution(s) by substituting back into the original equation.

2. Take care with inequality signs, especially when they involve negative numbers

When solving inequalities involving a modulus sign, be very careful with the inequality symbol. Remember that you need to reverse it if you are multiplying or dividing through by a negative number. Check your answer by substituting a number from within the solution set into the original inequality.

