



Solution

Range of $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}$: $\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{Solution: } f(x) \geq 0 \\ \text{Interval Notation: } [0, \infty) \end{array} \right]$

Steps

Function range definition

The set of values of the dependent variable for which a function is defined

Find the minimum and maximum value in each defined interval and unite the results

Domain of $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}$: $x \leq 2$ or $x \geq 4$

Hide Steps

Domain definition

The domain of a function is the set of input or argument values for which the function is real and defined

Find non - negative values for radicals: $x \leq 2$ or $x \geq 4$

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The function domain

$x \leq 2$ or $x \geq 4$

Extreme Points of $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}$: Minimum(2, 0), Minimum(4, 0)

Hide Steps

First Derivative Test definition

Suppose that $x = c$ is a critical point of $f(x)$ then,

If $f'(x) > 0$ to the left of $x = c$ and $f'(x) < 0$ to the right of $x = c$ then $x = c$ is a local maximum.

If $f'(x) < 0$ to the left of $x = c$ and $f'(x) > 0$ to the right of $x = c$ then $x = c$ is a local minimum.

If $f'(x)$ is the same sign on both sides of $x = c$ then $x = c$ is neither a local maximum nor a local minimum.

Find the critical points: $x = 2, x = 4$

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Domain of $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}$: $x \leq 2$ or $x \geq 4$

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Combine the critical point(s): $x = 2, x = 4$ with the domain

The function monotone intervals are:

$-\infty < x < 2, 4 < x < \infty$

Check the sign of $f'(x) = \frac{x-3}{\sqrt{x^2-6x+8}}$ at each monotone interval

Check the sign of $\frac{x-3}{\sqrt{x^2-6x+8}}$ at $-\infty < x < 2$: Negative

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Check the sign of $\frac{x-3}{\sqrt{x^2-6x+8}}$ at $4 < x < \infty$: Positive

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Use the First Derivative Test Variation for discontinuous functions

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Summary of the monotone intervals behavior

	$-\infty < x < 2$	$x = 2$	$x = 4$	$4 < x < \infty$
Sign	-	NA	NA	+
Behavior	Decreasing	Minimum	Minimum	Increasing

Plug the extreme point $x = 2$ into $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8} \Rightarrow y = 0$

Minimum(2, 0)

Plug the extreme point $x = 4$ into $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8} \Rightarrow y = 0$

Minimum(4, 0)

Minimum (2, 0), Minimum (4, 0)

Find the range for the interval $-\infty < x \leq 2$: $0 \leq f(x) < \infty$

Hide Steps

Compute the values of the function at the edges of the interval:

For $x = 2$, the function value is $f(2) = 0$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} (\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}) = \infty$$

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The interval has a minimum point at $x = 2$ with value $f(2) = 0$

Combine the function value at the edge with the extreme points of the function in the interval:

Minimum function value at the domain interval $-\infty < x \leq 2$ is 0Maximum function value at the domain interval $-\infty < x \leq 2$ is ∞ Therefore the range of $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}$ at the domain interval $-\infty < x \leq 2$ is

$$0 \leq f(x) < \infty$$

Find the range for the interval $4 \leq x < \infty$: $0 \leq f(x) < \infty$

Hide Steps

Compute the values of the function at the edges of the interval:

For $x = 4$, the function value is $f(4) = 0$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}) = \infty$$

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The interval has a minimum point at $x = 4$ with value $f(4) = 0$

Combine the function value at the edge with the extreme points of the function in the interval:

Minimum function value at the domain interval $4 \leq x < \infty$ is 0Maximum function value at the domain interval $4 \leq x < \infty$ is ∞ Therefore the range of $\sqrt{x^2 - 6x + 8}$ at the domain interval $4 \leq x < \infty$ is

$$0 \leq f(x) < \infty$$

Combine the ranges of all domain intervals to obtain the function range

$$f(x) \geq 0 \quad \text{or} \quad f(x) \geq 0$$

$$f(x) \geq 0$$

Graph

