

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA

Inequalities

Interval Notation	Inequality	Graph	Interval Notation
	$x > a$		(a, ∞)
	$x \geq a$		$[a, \infty)$
	$x < b$		$(-\infty, b)$
	$x \leq b$		$(-\infty, b]$
	$a < x < b$		(a, b)
	$a \leq x \leq b$		$[a, b]$
	$a \leq x < b$		$[a, b)$
	$a < x \leq b$		$(a, b]$
	$x < a \vee x > b$		$(-\infty, a) \cup (b, \infty)$
	$x \leq a \vee x \geq b$		$(-\infty, a] \cup [b, \infty)$

Linear Inequalities

Let a, b and c be any real numbers (or algebraic expressions).

$$a < b \Leftrightarrow -b > a$$

$$c > 0 \Rightarrow a < b \Leftrightarrow ac < bc$$

$$a < b \Leftrightarrow a + c < b + c$$

$$c < 0 \Rightarrow a < b \Leftrightarrow ac > bc$$

Set Operations

The *union* of sets A and B , denoted $A \cup B$, is the set of all elements that are in either A or B (or both). $A \cup B = \{x | x \in A \vee x \in B\}$.

The *intersection* of sets A and B , denoted $A \cap B$, is the set of all elements that are in both A and B . $A \cap B = \{x | x \in A \wedge x \in B\}$.

Absolute Value Equations and Inequalities

Let $c > 0$. Absolute value equations and inequalities can be rewritten without absolute values using the following equivalencies.

$$|x| = c \Leftrightarrow x = c \vee x = -c$$

$$|x| < c \Leftrightarrow -c < x < c$$

$$|x| > c \Leftrightarrow x > c \vee x < -c$$

$$|ax + b| = c \Leftrightarrow ax + b = c \vee ax + b = -c$$

$$|ax + b| < c \Leftrightarrow -c < ax + b < c$$

$$|ax + b| > c \Leftrightarrow ax + b > c \vee ax + b < -c$$