

Objective: Find the derivative of an inverse function.

Find the derivative of the inverse of the function $f(x) = \sqrt{x-4}$.

ANSWER:

We need to find the inverse of the function first.

$$f(x) = \sqrt{x-4}$$

$$y = \sqrt{x-4}$$

$$x = \sqrt{y-4}$$

$$x^2 = y-4$$

$$x^2 + 4 = y = f^{-1}$$

$$f^{-1} = x^2 + 4 \text{ so } (f^{-1})'(x) = 2x$$