

Absolute Mins and Maxs: To find the maximum and minimum values of a function $y = f(x)$, locate

1. the points where $f'(x)$ is zero or where $f'(x)$ fails to exist.
2. the end points, if any, on the domain of $f(x)$.
3. Plug those values into $f(x)$ to see which gives you the max and which gives you this min values (the x-value is where that value occurs)

Note: These are the only candidates for the value of x where $f(x)$ may have a maximum or a minimum.