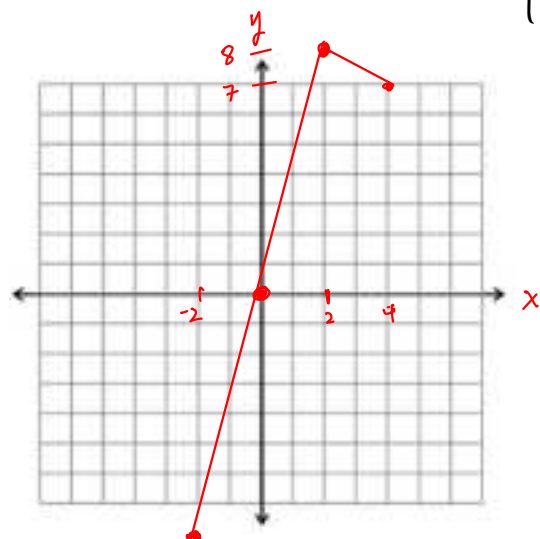


## Section 2.5—Piecewise-Defined Functions

**Example** Sketch the graph of the function. What are the domain and range? Is  $f$  continuous on its entire domain?

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 4x & \text{if } -2 \leq x \leq 2 \\ -\frac{1}{2}x + 9 & \text{if } 2 < x \leq 4 \end{cases}$$



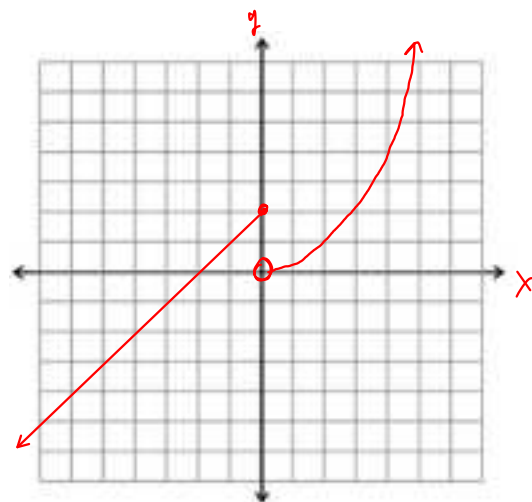
Domain:  $[-2, 4]$

Range:  $[-8, 8]$

The function is continuous on its entire domain.

**Example** Sketch the graph of the function. What are the domain and range? Is  $f$  continuous on its entire domain?

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 2 & \text{if } x \leq 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}x^2 & \text{if } x > 0 \end{cases}$$



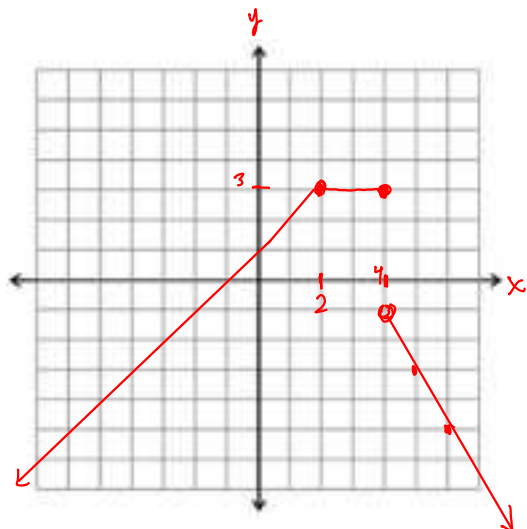
Domain:  $\mathbb{R}$

Range:  $\mathbb{R}$

The function has a jump discontinuity at  $x = 0$ .

**Example** Sketch the graph of the function. What are the domain and range? Is  $f$  continuous on its entire domain?

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x+1 & \text{if } x \leq 2 \\ 3 & \text{if } 2 < x \leq 4 \\ -2x+7 & \text{if } x > 4 \end{cases}$$



Domain:  $\mathbb{R}$

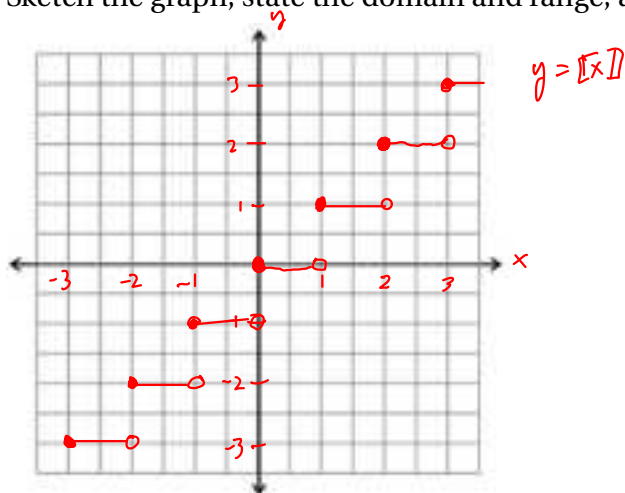
Range:  $(-\infty, 3]$

Jump discontinuity at  $x=4$

**The Step Function** also known as the “greatest integer function” is defined as

$$f(x) =: \llbracket x \rrbracket = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \text{ is an integer} \\ \text{the greatest integer less than } x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Sketch the graph, state the domain and range, and identify all points of discontinuity.



Domain:  $\mathbb{R}$

Range:  $\mathbb{Z}$  = integers only!

There is a jump discontinuity at each integer value of  $x$ .