Graphing The Inverse of Functions - Step-by-Step Lesson

Graph the inverse of $f(x) = \sqrt{x+5}$ (hint: identify the domain of f(x).)

Explanation:

This can be done a number of ways.

Method 1: You could first find the algebraic inverse of the function and then just plot points.

Method 2: You could pick points for x and determine y. Then take the inverse of those points (switch the x and y values). This is the method that most people use.

Method 2 in action:

Step 1) If I chose x=10 and plugged it in that would end in $y=\sqrt{10+5}$ y would result in 3.87.

Step 2) The resulting point would be (10, 3.87). We would take the inverse of this by flipping the values of x and y. (3.87, 10)

Step 3) We would continue this for wide series of points and the end graph would look like this:

