Exercise 87

For the following exercises, find the composition when $f(x) = x^2 + 2$ for all $x \ge 0$ and $g(x) = \sqrt{x-2}$.

$$(f \circ g)(6); \quad (g \circ f)(6)$$

Solution

Write $(f \circ g)(x)$.

$$(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$$

$$= (\sqrt{x-2})^2 + 2$$

$$= (x-2) + 2$$

$$= x$$

Write $(g \circ f)(x)$.

$$(g \circ f)(x) = g(f(x))$$

$$= \sqrt{(x^2 + 2) - 2}$$

$$= \sqrt{x^2}$$

$$= |x|$$

$$= x$$

Therefore,

$$(f \circ g)(6) = 6$$
 and $(g \circ f)(6) = 6$.