

SECTION 1.1 – INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHING



Any equation where x and/or y are both to the first power will be the graph of a line. Linear equations are often in the form $y = mx + b$, where m is the slope and b is the y -intercept. If m is positive the line will rise from left to right. If m is negative, the line will fall from left to right.

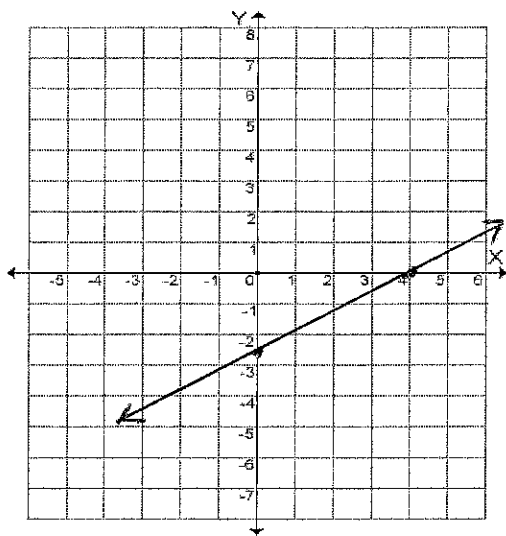
Any equation in the form $y = ax^2 + bx + c$ can be called a quadratic. Its graph will be a parabola (a U-shaped graph). The parabola will open up if $a > 0$ and open down if $a < 0$.

To find the **x -intercept(s)** set $y = 0$ and solve for x . To find the **y -intercept(s)** set $x = 0$ and solve for y .

For most of the course, y will be replaced by $f(x)$ resulting in function notation.

When graphing a line, plot at least 3 points. For something other than a line, plot enough points to create the general shape.

Ex. 1: Graph $2x - 3y = 8$ by finding the x and y intercepts.



$$y \text{ int} \Rightarrow x = 0$$

$$2(0) - 3y = 8 \quad y = -\frac{8}{3} \text{ or } (0, -\frac{8}{3})$$

$$x \text{ int} \Rightarrow y = 0$$

$$2x - 3(0) = 8 \quad x = 4 \text{ or } (4, 0)$$

The Distance Formula:

The distance between the points (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) is given by

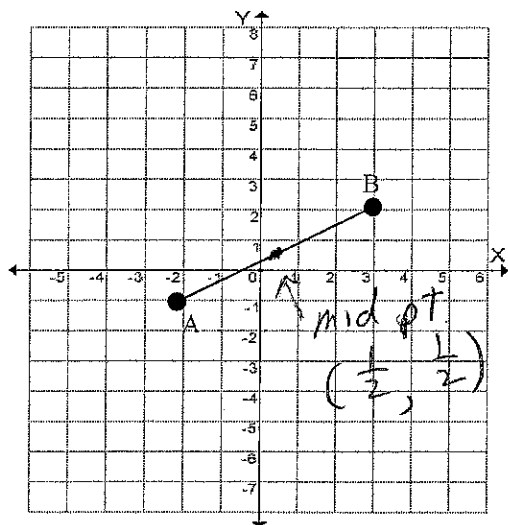
$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

The Midpoint Formula:

If the endpoints of a line segment are (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) , the coordinates of the midpoint

$$\text{are } \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right)$$

Ex. 2: Given pts $A(-2,-1)$ and $B(3,2)$;



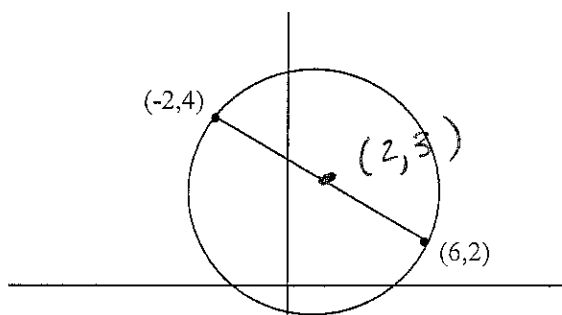
a) Find the distance between A and B .

$$\begin{aligned} d &= \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(3 - (-2))^2 + (2 - (-1))^2} \\ &= \sqrt{25 + 9} = \sqrt{34} \end{aligned}$$

b) Find the midpoint of the line segment \overline{AB} .
Decide if your answer makes sense by comparing it to the graph.

$$\begin{aligned} mp &= \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2}, \frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{3 + (-2)}{2}, \frac{2 + (-1)}{2} \right) = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Ex. 3: The points $(-2, 4)$ and $(6, 2)$ are the endpoints of the diameter of a circle. Find the radius and center. **Hint: Application of midpoint and distance.**



Find center: $\left(\frac{-2+6}{2}, \frac{4+2}{2} \right)$

$(2, 3)$

Find radius $r = \sqrt{(2-6)^2 + (3-2)^2}$
 $= \sqrt{17}$

Circles:

A **circle** is the set of all points in a plane that are a fixed distance (r) from a point. The equation of a circle with center (h,k) and radius r in standard form is: $(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 = r^2$

Derived from the Pythagorean Theorem, this form should remind you of $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$.

Ex. 4: Give the center and radius of the following circles.

a) $(x-1)^2 + (y+2)^2 = 25$

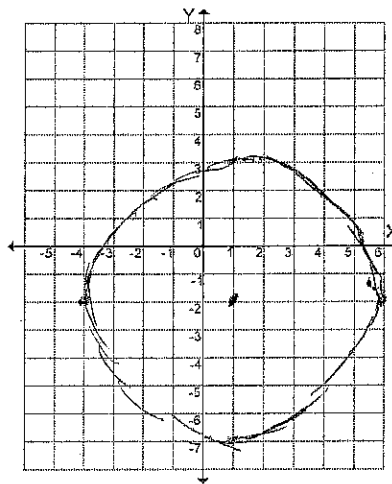
Center:

$(1, -2)$

Radius:

$r^2 = 25$
 $r = 5$

count 5 in all "directions"

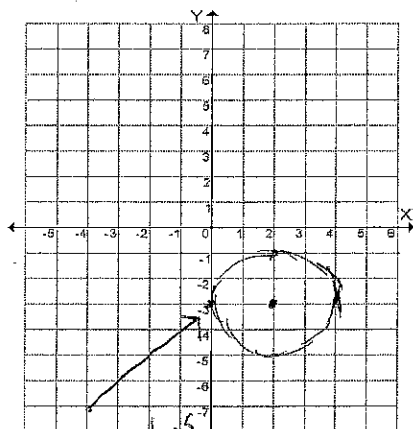


Sketch the graph

Ex. 5: Write the equation of a circle with a diameter of 5 and a center of $(-2, 4)$.

$\text{radius} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ diameter}$ $= \frac{5}{2}$	$(x-h)^2 + (y-k)^2 = r^2$ $(x+2)^2 + (y-4)^2 = \left(\frac{5}{2}\right)^2$
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Ex. 6: Find the equation of a circle with center $(2, -3)$ that is tangent to the y -axis. Use the grid below to sketch the graph.



Touches here

picture "helps"

radius is "countable"

$r = 2$

$$(x-2)^2 + (y+3)^2 = 4$$