Finding Slope From Two Points

The slope of a line is a number that helps you understand how steep the line is.

To find the slope between two points (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) , use the formula below:

slope =
$$\frac{\text{change in } y}{\text{change in } x} = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

Make sure that the values you substitute for x_1 and y_1 come from the same point! The values you substitute for x_2 and y_2 will come from the other point.

Let's try an example!

Find the slope of the line that goes through the points (-2, -1) and (4, 3). To start, choose one point to be your first point (x_1, y_1) and use the other as the second point (x_2, y_2) . Then use the slope formula and write the answer as a simplified fraction or integer.

$$(x_1, y_1) = (-2, -1)$$

 $(x_2, y_2) = (4, 3)$

slope =
$$\frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_4} = \frac{3 - (-1)}{4 - (-2)} = \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3}$$

The slope of the line is $\frac{2}{3}$.



Find the slope of the line that goes through the two given points for each problem. Make sure to write each slope as a simplified fraction or integer.

(1, 3) and (2, 5)	(3, 4) and (5, 2)	(2, 10) and (6, 12)
slope =	slope =	slope =
(8, 20) and (17, 15)	(9, 2) and (−1, 4)	(0, 7) and (1, ~3)
slope =	slope =	slope =
(−9, 11) and (6, 6)	(5, -3) and (13, -5)	(23, 4) and (-7, -11)
slope =	slope =	slope =
(−4, −6) and (8, 2)	(−12, −1) and (−8, −5)	(−21, −18) and (−16, −3)
slope =	slope =	slope =

FINDING SLOPE FROM A GRAPH

The slope of a line is a number that helps you understand how steep the line is. You can find the slope of a line by dividing the change in y, or rise, by the change in x, or run:

Slope =
$$\frac{\text{change in } y}{\text{change in } x} = \frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}}$$



Let's try it! Find the slope of the line on the graph below.

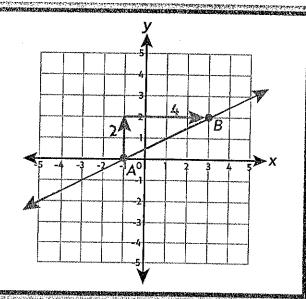
Pick two points on the line that are easy to identify.

A is at (-1, 0). B is at (3, 2).

To move from point A to point B, first go up 2 units. The rise is 2. Then go to the right 4 units. The run is 4.

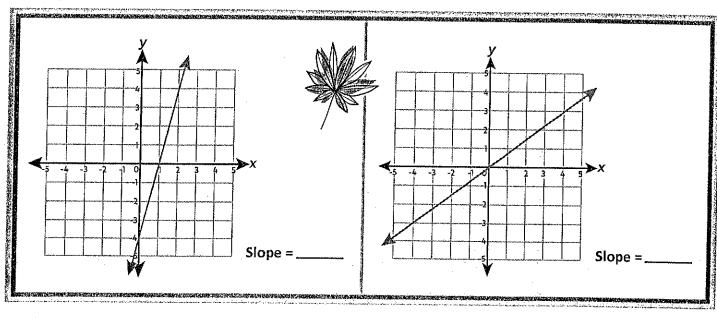
Write the slope. Make sure to simplify your answer.

Slope =
$$\frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$



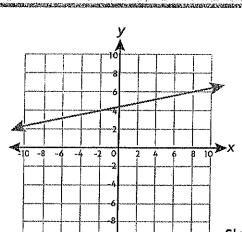
Note that sometimes slopes will be negative! This will happen if your rise is negative (you move down instead of up) or your run is negative (you move left instead of right).

Find the slope of each line below. Simplify your answer and write it as a proper fraction, improper fraction, or integer.



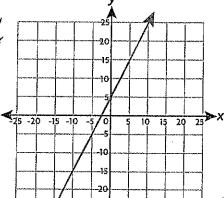
FINDING SLOPE FROM A GRAPH

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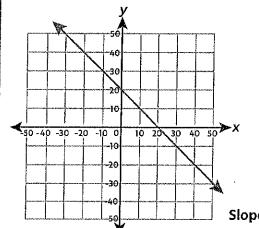


Slope = _

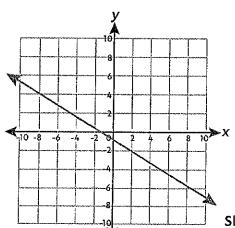




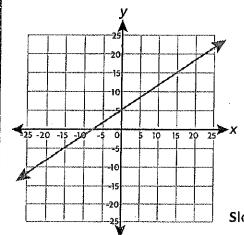
Slope =_



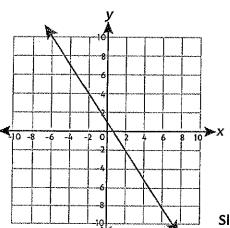
Slope = _



Slope =



Slope =.



Find the slope from each equation.

11)
$$3x + 2y = 6$$

12)
$$4x - 5y = 0$$

13)
$$y = -1$$

14)
$$x + 5y = -15$$

15)
$$-2y - 10 + 2x = 0$$

16)
$$x + 5 + y = 0$$

17)
$$3x + 20 = -4y$$

18)
$$-15 - x = -5y$$

19)
$$-1 = -2x + y$$

20)
$$-x-1 = y$$

21)
$$0 = 5y - x$$

22)
$$-30 + 10y = -2x$$