Introduction To Slope

Slope is a measure of Steepness.

Types of Slope

Zero

Negative

Positive

Undefined or No Slope

 Slope is sometimes referred to as the "rate of change" between 2 points.

The letter "m" is always used to represent slope.

A. FORMULA

If given 2 points on a line, you may find the slope using the Formula... $m = y_2 - y_1$ $x_{2} - x_{1}$

NOTE: The formula may sometimes be written as $m = \Delta y$. Δx

Slope can be expressed in some other different ways:

$$m = \frac{(y_2 - y_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)} = \frac{rise}{run} = \frac{\text{vertical change}}{\text{horizontal change}}$$

1.) Find the slope of the line through the points (3,7) and (5, 19). $x_1 y_1 x_2 y_2$

 $m = \underbrace{y_2 - y_1}_{X_2 - X_1} \xrightarrow{m} = \underbrace{19 - 7}_{5 - 3} \xrightarrow{m} = \underbrace{12}_{2} \xrightarrow{m} = 6$

2) Find the slope of the line that passes through the points (-2, -2) and (4, 1).

When given points, it is easier to use the formula!

$$m = \frac{(y_2 - y_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)}$$

$$m = \frac{(1 - (-2))}{(4 - (-2))} = \frac{(1 + 2)}{(4 + 2)} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

3) Find the slope of the line that goes through the points (-5, 3) and (2, 1).

$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

$$m = \frac{1-3}{2-(-5)}$$



4) Find the slope of the line that passes through (3, 5) and (-1, 4).

- 1. 4 2. -4
- $\Rightarrow 3. \frac{1}{4}$

4. $-\frac{1}{4}$

B. Determine the slope of a line with a graph



When given the graph, it is easier to apply "**rise over run**".

Determine the slope of the line. Start with the lower point and count how much you <u>rise</u> and then how much you <u>run</u> to get to the other point!



$$\frac{\text{rise}}{\text{run}} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

- This is called the Triangle Method
- The slope is positive since the line is increasing

Determine the slope of the line shown.



Determine the slope of the line.



Find points on the graph.Use two of them andapply rise over run.

$$\frac{rise}{run} = \frac{2}{-1} = -2$$

The line is decreasing (slope is negative).

What is the slope of a horizontal line?



The line doesn't rise! $m = \frac{0}{number} = 0$ All horizontal lines have a slope of 0.

What is the slope of a vertical line?



All vertical lines have an undefined slope.

Remember the word "VUXHOY"

- Vertical lines
- Undefined slope
- \mathbf{X} = number; This is the equation of the line.
- Horizontal lines
- **O** zero is the slope
- $\mathbf{Y} =$ number; This is the equation of the line.

The End