LINEAR FUNCTION GRADE 10

SKETCHING STRAIGHT LINE GRAPHS

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FIRST LET US LOOK AT THE EQUATION OF A LINEAR FUNCTION (OR STRAIGHT LINE GRAPHS)

LINEAR FUNCTION

y = ax + q which is the same as y = mx + c
m (or a) is the gradient (slope of graph)
c (or q) is the y-intercept (where the graph cuts the y-axis)

LINEAR FUNCTION A METHOD (DUAL INTERCEPT) TO SKETCH A LINEAR FUNCTION (OR **STRAIGHT LINE GRAPH) PRIOR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED FIRST** YOU WILL NEED TO CALCULATE THE COORDINATES OF THE X AND Y INTERCEPTS. ONCE YOU HAVE THE X AND Y INTERCEPTS YOU WILL PLOT THE POINTS ON A CARTESIAN PLANE. y-intercept is where x = 0 (where the graph cuts the y-axis) x-intercept is where y = 0 (where the graph cuts the x-axis)

EXAMPLE 1

SKETCH THE FOLLOWING FUNCTION y = 2x + 4

ANSWER

A method is as follows:

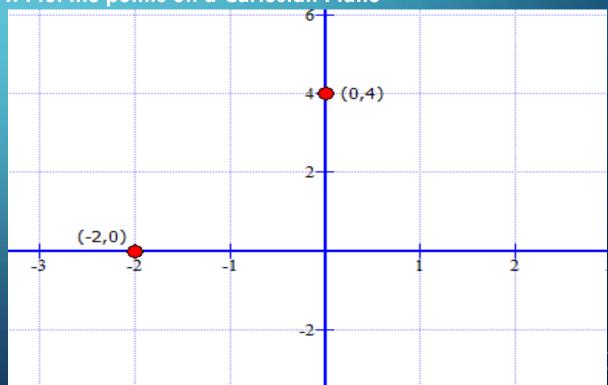
- **1.** Make sure the function is in standard form (y=....)
- 2. Find the y-intercept by substituting x=0 into the given function

y = 2x + 4 y = 2. (0) + 4 y = 4The coordinate to plot is (0;4) 3. Find the x-intercept by substituting y=0 into the given function

y = 2x + 4 0 = 2x + 4 -4 = 2x-2 = x

The coordinate to plot is (-2;0)

4. Plot the points on a Cartesian Plane

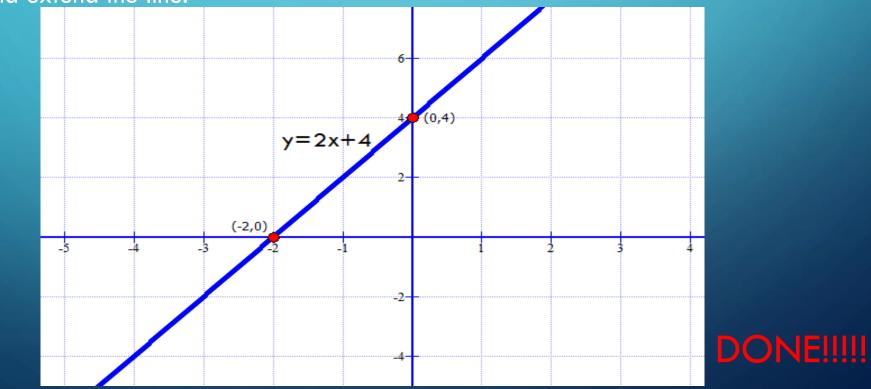


EXAMPLE 1

SKETCH THE FOLLOWING FUNCTION y = 2x + 4

ANSWER

5. Join the points and extend the line.



EXAMPLE 2

Sketch the following functions on the same set of axes.

x + 2y - 5 = 03x - y - 1 = 0

For x + 2y - 5 = 0: We first write the equation in standard form: $y = -\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{5}{2}$. From this we see that the *y*-intercept is $\frac{5}{2}$. The *x*-intercept is 5. For 3x - y - 1 = 0: We first write the equation in standard form: y = 3x - 1. From this we see that the *y*-intercept is -1. The *x*-intercept is $\frac{1}{3}$.

Graph 1 x+2y-5=0Y-intercept $(0; \frac{5}{2})$ X-intercept (5;0)Graph 2 3x - y - 1 = 0Y-intercept (0; -1)X-intercept $\frac{1}{3};0$



