

1. The straight line goes through the points $(-3, 2)$ and $(4, -1)$. Find the slope of the line.

According to the formula $m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$ we have $m = \frac{-1 - 2}{4 - (-3)} = \frac{-3}{7}$.

2. Write a point-slope equation for the line from Problem 1.

If we know the slope m and a point (a, b) on the straight line we can write an equation in the point-slope form as $y - b = m(x - a)$. If we use e.g. the point $(-3, 2)$ then we can write

$$y - 2 = -\frac{3}{7}[x - (-3)] \text{ or } y - 2 = -\frac{3}{7}(x + 3).$$

3. Write the slope-intercept equation for the line from Problem 1.

We will solve the equation we got in the previous problem for y .

$$y = -\frac{3}{7}(x + 3) + 2 = -\frac{3}{7}x - \frac{9}{7} + \frac{14}{7} = -\frac{3}{7}x + \frac{5}{7}.$$

4. Write an equation of the line parallel to the line from Problem 1 and going through the point $(1, 3)$.

Parallel lines have equal slopes and therefore we can write an equation of this parallel

line in the point-slope form $y - 3 = -\frac{3}{7}(x - 1)$. Solving for y we get an equation in the

$$\text{slope-intercept form } y = -\frac{3}{7}x + \frac{3}{7} + 3 = -\frac{3}{7}x + \frac{24}{7}.$$

5. Write an equation of the line perpendicular to the line from Problem 1 and going through the point $(1, 3)$.

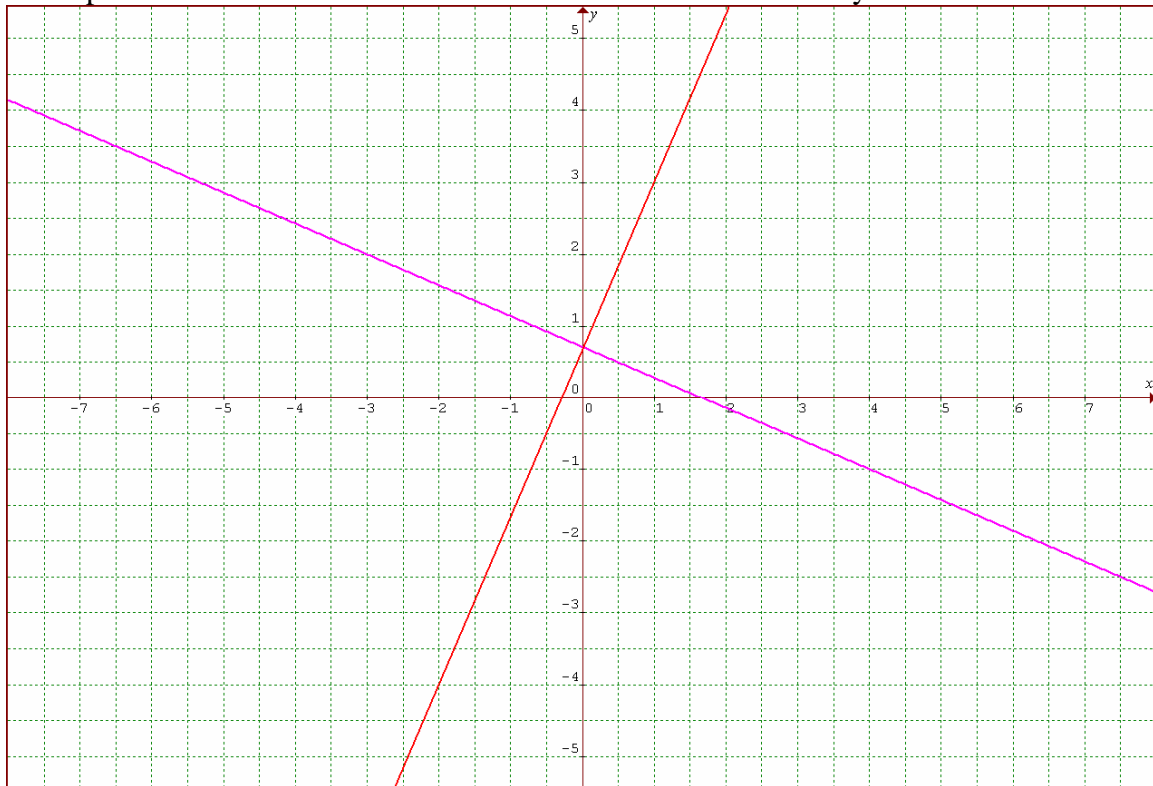
The slopes of perpendicular lines are negative reciprocals ($m_1 m_2 = -1$) and therefore the

slope of the perpendicular line is $\frac{7}{3}$ and its equation in the point-slope form

is $y - 3 = \frac{7}{3}(x - 1)$. Solving for y we get an equation in the slope-intercept form

$$y = \frac{7}{3}x - \frac{7}{3} + 3 = \frac{7}{3}x + \frac{2}{3}.$$

6. Graph the lines from Problems 1 and 5 in the same coordinate system.



7. Find the point of intersection of the lines from Problems 1 and 5.

We have to solve the system of equations

$$y = -\frac{3}{7}x + \frac{5}{7}$$

$$y = \frac{7}{3}x + \frac{2}{3}$$

Because the left parts are equal so are the right parts.

$-\frac{3}{7}x + \frac{5}{7} = \frac{7}{3}x + \frac{2}{3}$. Multiplying both parts by the common denominator, 21, we get

$-9x + 15 = 49x + 14$, or $-58x = -1$ and $x = \frac{1}{58}$. After we plug this value of x into the first

equation we get $y = -\frac{3}{7} \times \frac{1}{58} + \frac{5}{7} = \frac{287}{406} \approx .7$

8. The straight line has the x-intercept -2 and the y-intercept 3. Write an equation of the

line. We use the formula $\frac{x}{a} + \frac{y}{b} = 1$ where a and b are the x-intercept and the y-

intercept, respectively. In our case $\frac{x}{-2} + \frac{y}{3} = 1$ or $2y - 3x = 6$.

9. If the price of a CD-player is \$40 the demand is 4000. If the price of the same CD- player is \$60 the demand is 3000. Assuming that the demand is a linear function of the price find the demand if the price is \$55.

First we need the slope-intercept equation of the line through the points (40, 4000) and

(60, 3000). The slope of the line is $m = \frac{3000 - 4000}{60 - 40} = \frac{-1000}{20} = -50$. Using for example

the first point we can write an equation of the line in the point-slope form $d - 4000 = -50(p - 40)$. From here, $d = -50p + 6000$. If

$p = 55$ then $d = -50 \times 55 + 6000 = 3250$.

10. A small company produces dolls. The permanent monthly expenses are \$6000 and the Cost of producing a doll is \$3. If the dolls sell for \$10 each what is the breakeven point?

The cost of producing x dolls is $C(x) = 3x + 6000$. The corresponding revenue

is $R(x) = 10x$. To find the break-even point we have to solve the equation $R(x) = C(x)$, or $10x = 3x + 6000$. We have $7x = 6000$ or $x = 6000/7 \approx 857$..