

5-6

Geometry: Parallel and Perpendicular Lines

(Pages 292–297)

Parallel Lines	Lines in the same plane that never intersect are called parallel lines . If two nonvertical lines have the same slope, then they are parallel. All vertical lines are parallel.
Perpendicular Lines	Lines that intersect at right angles are called perpendicular lines . If the product of the slopes of two lines is -1 , then the lines are perpendicular. The slopes of two perpendicular lines are negative reciprocals of each other. In a plane, vertical lines and horizontal lines are perpendicular.

Examples

- a. Determine whether the graphs of $2y = -3x + 4$ and $3y = 2x - 9$ are parallel, perpendicular, or neither.**

Rewrite each line in slope-intercept form to identify its slope.

$$2y = -3x + 4 \qquad 3y = 2x - 9$$

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

$$m = -\frac{3}{2} \qquad m = \frac{2}{3}$$

Since $-\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = -1$, these lines are perpendicular.

- b. Write an equation in slope-intercept form of the line that is parallel to the graph of $x + 6y = -12$ and has an x -intercept of 9.**

Find the slope of the line given.

$$6y = -x - 12 \Rightarrow y = -\frac{1}{6}x - 2$$

A line parallel to this line will have the same slope, or $-\frac{1}{6}$. An x -intercept of 9 means the new line passes through $(9, 0)$.

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1) \quad \text{Point-slope form}$$

$$y - 0 = -\frac{1}{6}(x - 9) \quad m = -\frac{1}{6}, (x_1, y_1) = (9, 0)$$

$$y = -\frac{1}{6}x + \frac{3}{2} \quad \text{Slope-intercept form}$$

Practice

Determine whether the graphs of each pair of equations are **parallel**, **perpendicular**, or **neither**.

1. $x = 4y + 12$
 $4y = x + 8$

2. $y = -x + 8$
 $x + 2y = 8$

3. $2y = 5x + 6$
 $2x + 5y = 5$

Write an equation in slope-intercept form of the line having the following properties.

- is perpendicular to the graph of $y = \frac{1}{2}x + 6$ and passes through $(6, 8)$
- is parallel to the graph of $y = \frac{1}{6}x - 2$ and passes through the origin
- passes through $(1, 0)$ and is parallel to the graph of $3x - 3y = 5$
- passes through $(0, -7)$ and is perpendicular to the graph of $x - 2y = 7$
- is parallel to the x -axis and passes through $(4, 5)$
- is perpendicular to the graph of $x - 3y = 6$ and passes through $(7, -5)$
- Standardized Test Practice** What is the slope of a line perpendicular to $y + 3x = 2$?

A -3

B $-\frac{1}{3}$

C $\frac{1}{3}$

D 3

Answers: 1. parallel 2. neither 3. perpendicular 4. $y = -2x + 20$ 5. $y = \frac{6}{1}x = 6x$ 6. $y = x - 1$ 7. $y = -2x - 7$ 8. $y = 5$ 9. $y = -3x + 16$ 10. C