

Graphing Linear Equations

A simple way to graph linear equations is to find any two points that satisfy the equation and then draw a straight line through them.

Consider these sets of similar linear equations:

Example 1: $y = x$, $y = 2x$, $y = 3x$, $y = 4x$

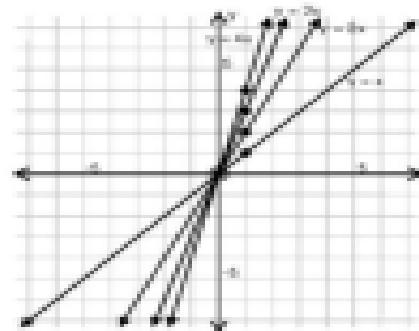
Solution:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = x \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = 2x \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = 3x \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = 4x \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 \end{array}$$



Example 2: $y = x$, $y = x + 1$, $y = x + 2$, $y = x + 3$

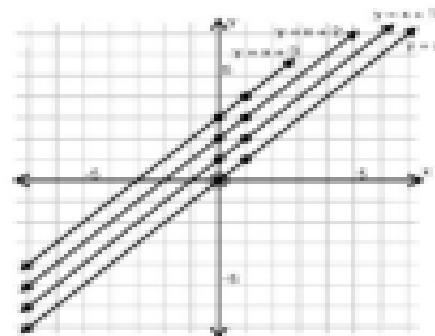
Solution:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = x \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = x + 1 \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = x + 2 \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline -2 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c} y = x + 3 \\ \hline x & y \\ \hline -3 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{array}$$



Note that these lines are all parallel.