

Difference between an **equation** and an **expression**: An **equation** has an “=” sign; an **expression** doesn’t.

Definitions: [we can use #0 or #1 below as our definition of a line.] NOTE: a vertical line is a line, but not a linear function. The equation of a vertical line is “ $x=a$ ” where “ a ” is any constant value.

0. A Linear equation is an equation whose graph is a (non-vertical) line.
1. [STANDARD FORM] A Linear equation is an equation of the form $Ax + By + C = 0$. (a linear polynomial in 2 variables is equal to zero). Note that either A or B must be non-zero.
2. [SLOPE-INTERCEPT FORM] A linear equation is an equation of the form $y = mx + b$, where m = slope and b = y-intercept.
3. [TWO-INTERCEPT FORM] A linear equation is an equation of the form $x/a + y/b = 1$, where a = x-intercept and b = y-intercept. (WATCH OUT: lines through the origin cannot be put into this form !!!)
4. [POINT-SLOPE FORM] A linear equation is an equation of the form $(y - y_1) / (x - x_1) = m$, where (x_1, y_1) is a point through which the line passes, and m = the slope of the line.
5. [TWO-POINT FORM] A linear equation is an equation of the form $(y - y_1) / (x - x_1) = (y_2 - y_1) / (x_2 - x_1)$ where (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) are different points through which the line passes.

Steps in graphing equations of each form: (draw the line after the steps below.)

1. [STANDARD FORM] $Ax + By + C = 0$
 - a. Set $x=0$ and solve for y . This gives a point on the y-axis.
 - b. Set $y=0$ and solve for x . This gives a point on the x-axis..
2. [SLOPE-INTERCEPT FORM] $y = mx + b$
 - a. Find the point $(0, b)$ on the graph.
 - b. Use the slope $m = [\text{rise/run}]$ to find a second point.
3. [TWO-INTERCEPT FORM] $x/a + y/b = 1$
 - a. Graph the points $(a, 0)$ and $(0, b)$.
4. [POINT-SLOPE FORM] $(y - y_1) / (x - x_1) = m$
 - a. Graph the point (x_1, y_1) .
 - b. Use the slope m to find a second point relative to the first point.
5. [TWO-POINT FORM] $(y - y_1) / (x - x_1) = (y_2 - y_1) / (x_2 - x_1)$
 - a. Graph the points (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) .

	Assignment 1. Graph all of these on the same graph			Assignment 2. Graph all of these on the same graph.
A	$y = 2x + 3$		M	$y = 5x - 2$
B	$y = 2x + 5$		N	$y = 3x - 2$
C	$y = 2x - 6$		P	$y = x - 2$
D	$y = 2x$		Q	$y = (2/3)x - 2$
E	$y = 2x - 1$		R	$y = (1/5)x - 2$
F	$y = 2x + \frac{1}{2}$		S	$y = (-1/2)x - 2$
G	$y = 2x - 1/3$		T	$y = -(3/2)x - 2$
H	$y = 2x + 7/2$		U	$y = -4x - 2$
J	$y = 2x + 2$		V	$y = -9x - 2$