

Sequences



1
Arithmetic Sequences



Arithmetic Sequence



- Each term, after the first is found by adding a **common difference**
(what gets added every time)
- Example: 4, 6, 8, 10, ...
 +2 +2 +2

$a_1 \rightarrow$ (value of the first term) 4

$n \rightarrow$ (which term it is)

$d \rightarrow$ (common difference: $a_n - a_{n-1}$)
 $d = 2$

Is the following arithmetic? If so, find the common difference.



- $-4, -1, 2, 5, 8, \dots$ *yes $d=3$*
+3 +3
- $7, 3, -1, -5, -9, \dots$ *yes $d=-4$*
- $3, 6, 12, 24, \dots$ *no*
- $3, 8$ *not enough info*

Use the recursive formula given to find the first four terms of the arithmetic sequence given.

$$t_1 = 7$$

$$t_n = t_{n-1} - 3$$

$$d = -3$$

$$7, 4, 1, -2,$$



Use the recursive formula given to find the first four terms of the arithmetic sequence given.

$$t_1 = -2$$

$$t_n = t_{n-1} + 6$$

$$-2, 4, 10, 16 \dots$$



List the first three terms of the arithmetic sequence below:

explicit

$$t_n = 2n - 3$$



$$\begin{array}{cccc} \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} & \textcircled{4} \\ 2(1)-3 & 2(2)-3 & 2(3)-3 & 2(4)-3 \\ -1 & , & 1 & , & 3 & , & 5 \dots \end{array}$$

List the first three terms of the arithmetic sequence below:

$$t_n = 5 + (n - 1)(3)$$



Let's figure out the explicit formula!



1st term: a_1

2nd term: $a_1 + d$

3rd term: $a_1 + d + d = a_1 + 2d$

4th term: $a_1 + 2d + d = a_1 + 3d$

10th term: $a_1 + 9d$

n th term:

$$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$$

Write an explicit formula for the n th term of the arithmetic sequence below:

12, 15, 18, 21, 24, ...

$$a_1 = 12$$

$$d = 3$$

explicit

$$a_n = a_1 + (n-1)d$$

$$a_n = 12 + (n-1)3$$

Plug in &
Simplify

$$a_n = 12 + 3n - 3$$

$$a_n = 3n + 9$$

Find the 100th term

$$a_n = 3(100) + 9$$

$$300 + 9$$

$$a_{100} = 309$$



Recursive

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + d$$

$$a_n = a_{n-1} + 3$$

Write an explicit formula for the n th term of the arithmetic sequence below:

4, 1, -2, -5, -8, ...



Write an explicit formula for the n th term of the arithmetic sequence below:

$-14, -11, -8, -5, \dots$

