

Reminder: A straight line is a set of infinite number of collinear points in plane.

I- How to prove that three points in a plane are collinear?

To prove that three points in a plane are collinear we have two main strategies:

Strategy	1	2
Method	If any of the two points are on a given line	If you are given any 3 points
Method	Just prove that the 3 rd point is on the line, by replacing its coordinates in eqn of given line.	Just prove that the 3 points have equal slopes.
Application	<p>Ques: Prove that A, B & C collinear, so that (AB): $y = 2x - 3$ & C(2; 1)</p> <p>Soln: (AB): $y = 2x - 3$ & C(2; 1) C is on (AB), if its coordinates fit in eqn of (d) $y_c = 2x_c - 3$ $1 \stackrel{?}{=} 2(2) - 3$ $1 = 1 \quad \checkmark$ Thus, points A, B & C are collinear.</p>	<p>Ques: Prove that A, B & C collinear, so that A(1; 3), B(4; 2) & C(7; 1)</p> <p>Soln: $a_{(AB)} = a_{(AC)}$ $\frac{y_B - y_A}{x_B - x_A} = \frac{y_C - y_A}{x_C - x_A}$ $\frac{2 - 3}{4 - 1} \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1 - 3}{7 - 1}$ $\frac{-1}{3} = \frac{-2}{6} \quad \checkmark$ Thus, points A, B & C are collinear.</p>

II- How to determine the equation of a straight line in plane?

At this level to determine the equation of a line we need

The coordinates of two points $A(x_A; y_A)$ & $B(x_B; y_B)$	Or	Coordinates of a point and a slope $A(x_A; y_A)$ & a
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➤ To find equation of a straight line it is **sufficient** to use **one** of the following **combinations**:

Given information	Formula used and steps to follow	Figures
Line passing through two given points $A(x_A; y_A)$ & $B(x_B; y_B)$	<p>✓ Take any point $M(x, y)$ on the given straight line.</p> <p>Now, points A, B & M are collinear, Then $a_{(AM)} = a_{(AB)}$ Thus, $\frac{y - y_A}{x - x_A} = \frac{y_B - y_A}{x_B - x_A}$</p>	
Line passing through a given point $A(x_A; y_A)$ and knowing its slope (director coefficient)	<p>✓ Take any point $M(x, y)$ on the given straight line.</p> <p>$\frac{y - y_A}{x - x_A} = a$ OR $y - y_A = a(x - x_A)$</p>	
Line passing through two given points $A(x_A; h)$ & $B(x_B; h)$ having same ordinates.	<p>✓ $A(x_A; h)$ & $B(x_B; h)$ have same ordinate so, (AB) \parallel x - axis thus, (AB): $y = h$</p>	
Line passing through two given points $A(v; y_A)$ & $B(v; y_B)$ having same abscissas.	<p>✓ $A(x_A; h)$ & $B(x_B; h)$ have same abscissa so, (AB) \parallel y - axis thus, (AB): $x = v$</p>	

Exercises

- 1) Consider in the system ($x'Ox$ & $y'Oy$) the points: $A(3; 4)$ $B(2; 1)$ & $C(5; 0)$
 - a. Plot the given points.
 - b. Prove by calculation that given points are not collinear.
- 2) Find the numerical value of m , so that the given points $A(2; m)$ $B(1; 1)$ & $C(m; 5)$ are collinear.
- 3) Determine the equation of the straight line (d) in each of the following cases and **trace it**:
 - a. Passing through the points: $A(-3; 2)$ & $B(3; 5)$.
 - b. Passing through the points: $M(4; 1)$ & $N(4; -2)$.
 - c. Passing through the points: $E(2; 1)$ & $F\left(\frac{2}{3}; 1\right)$.
 - d. Passing through the points: $S(2; 3)$ & $K(4; 6)$.
- 4) Determine the equation of the straight line (r) in each of the following cases:
 - a. The parallel to (l): $y - 3x = \sqrt{2}x + 1$ and passing through the point $B\left(\frac{3}{2}; -\frac{1}{2}\right)$
 - b. The perpendicular to (n): $4x - 2y + 3 = 0$ & passing through point $E(5, -1)$.
 - c. The perpendicular bisector of the segment $[AB]$, where $A(1; -2)$ & $B(2; 3)$.