

Finding the Distance Between Two Points

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: _____ / 18

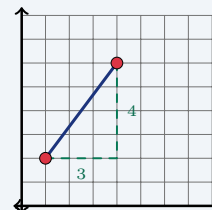
Quick Review and Helpful Hints

The distance between two points comes from the Pythagorean theorem: $d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$. Find the horizontal change and the vertical change, square each, add them, then take the square root. Simplify the radical when possible.

► **Example:** Find the distance between (1, 2) and (4, 6).

Work: Horizontal change: $4 - 1 = 3$. Vertical change: $6 - 2 = 4$.

Then $d = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{9 + 16} = \sqrt{25}$. ★ **Answer:** $d = 5$



$$d = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = 5.$$

Practice Problems

Find the distance between each pair of points. Simplify radicals.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|------------------------|-------|
| 1. (0, 0) and (3, 4) | _____ | 8. (0, 0) and (1, 1) | _____ |
| 2. (0, 0) and (6, 8) | _____ | 9. (2, 2) and (5, 6) | _____ |
| 3. (1, 1) and (4, 5) | _____ | 10. (0, 0) and (2, 2) | _____ |
| 4. (2, 3) and (2, 9) | _____ | 11. (1, 1) and (4, 1) | _____ |
| 5. (1, 2) and (7, 2) | _____ | 12. (-2, 0) and (1, 4) | _____ |
| 6. (0, 0) and (5, 12) | _____ | 13. (0, 0) and (8, 6) | _____ |
| 7. (-1, -1) and (2, 3) | _____ | 14. (3, 1) and (3, 8) | _____ |

Word Problems

15. On a map, a school is at (0, 0) and a library is at (9, 12), in miles. How far apart are they? _____
16. A drone flies in a straight vertical line from (2, 1) to (2, 9). How far did it travel? _____
17. Two ships are at (0, 0) and (5, 12) on a grid measured in kilometers. Find the distance between them. _____
18. A walking path runs straight from (1, 2) to (4, 6), measured in blocks. How long is the path? _____



Answer Keys

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

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11.

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13.

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16.

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18.

Step-by-Step Explanations

1. Start by naming the process: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Use the distance formula: the legs are 3 and 4, so $d = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{25} = 5$. So the final answer is 5.

2. A good way to think about this is: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Legs 6 and 8: $d = \sqrt{36 + 64} = \sqrt{100} = 10$. So the final answer is 10.

3. Step by step: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is The changes are 3 across and 4 up: $d = \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5$. So the final answer is 5.

4. Take it one move at a time: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Same x , so the points are stacked vertically – just subtract: $9 - 3 = 6$. So the final answer is 6.

5. Start by naming the process: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Same y , so they sit on a horizontal line: $7 - 1 = 6$. So the final answer is 6.

6. A good way to think about this is: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Legs 5 and 12: $d = \sqrt{25 + 144} = \sqrt{169} = 13$. So the final answer is 13.

7. Step by step: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is The changes are 3 and 4: $d = \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5$. So the final answer is 5.

8. Take it one move at a time: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Legs 1 and 1: $d = \sqrt{1 + 1} = \sqrt{2}$, already in simplest form. So the final answer is $\sqrt{2}$.

9. Start by naming the process: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Changes of 3 and 4 again: $d = \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5$. So the final answer is 5.

10. A good way to think about this is: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Legs 2 and 2: $d = \sqrt{4 + 4} = \sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}$. So the final answer is $2\sqrt{2}$.

11. Step by step: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Same y , so just measure the horizontal gap: $4 - 1 = 3$. So the final answer is 3.

12. Take it one move at a time: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Changes 3 and 4: $d = \sqrt{9 + 16} = 5$. So the final answer is 5.

13. Start by naming the process: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Legs 8 and 6: $d = \sqrt{64 + 36} = \sqrt{100} = 10$. So the final answer is 10.

14. A good way to think about this is: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is Same x , a vertical line: $8 - 1 = 7$. So the final answer is 7.

15. Step by step: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is $d = \sqrt{9^2 + 12^2} = \sqrt{225} = 15$ miles. So the final answer is 15 miles.

16. Take it one move at a time: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is A straight vertical flight has the same x , so the distance is $9 - 1 = 8$ units. So the final answer is 8 units.

17. Start by naming the process: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is $d = \sqrt{5^2 + 12^2} = \sqrt{169} = 13$ km. So the final answer is 13 km.

18. A good way to think about this is: Read what the problem is asking, choose the matching rule, write the setup, and then simplify one step at a time. The setup/work is $d = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2} = \sqrt{25} = 5$ blocks. So the final answer is 5 blocks.



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