

Coordinate Plane Guide

See the axes, origin, quadrants, and exact location of each ordered pair.

The Coordinate Plane



What each picture means

- x-axis**
The horizontal line. Left is negative; right is positive.
- y-axis**
The vertical line. Down is negative; up is positive.
- origin**
The center where both axes meet: (0, 0).
- ordered pair**
Move with x first, then move with y.

The Four Quadrants

Quadrant I	x positive, y positive	Example: (3, 2)
Quadrant II	x negative, y positive	Example: (-3, 2)
Quadrant III	x negative, y negative	Example: (-3, -2)
Quadrant IV	x positive, y negative	Example: (3, -2)

Plot (-3, 2)

Start at the origin. Move 3 spaces left. Move 2 spaces up. Place the dot exactly where the vertical and horizontal grid lines meet.