

6.3: Graphing Sine and Cosine Functions

Periodic Function and Period

A function is periodic if, for some real number α , $f(x + \alpha) = f(x)$ for each x in the domain of f .

The least positive value of α for which $f(x) = f(x - \alpha)$ is the *period* of the function.

1 Determine if each function is periodic. If so, state the period.

a. The values of the function repeat for each interval of 4 units. The function is periodic, and the period is 4.

b. The values of the function do not repeat. The function is not periodic.

$y = 1 \sin x$

x	$y = \sin x$	(x, y)	x	$y = \sin x$	(x, y)
0	0	(0, 0)	π	0	(π , 0)
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{\pi}{6}$, $\frac{1}{2}$)	$\frac{7\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{7\pi}{6}$, $-\frac{1}{2}$)
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	1	($\frac{\pi}{2}$, 1)	$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	-1	($\frac{3\pi}{2}$, -1)
$\frac{5\pi}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{5\pi}{6}$, $\frac{1}{2}$)	$\frac{11\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{11\pi}{6}$, $-\frac{1}{2}$)
π	0	(π , 0)	2π	0	(2π , 0)

The Graph of the Sine Function $y = \sin x$

x	$y = \sin x$	(x, y)	x	$y = \sin x$	(x, y)
0	0	(0, 0)	π	0	(π , 0)
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{\pi}{6}$, $\frac{1}{2}$)	$\frac{7\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{7\pi}{6}$, $-\frac{1}{2}$)
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	1	($\frac{\pi}{2}$, 1)	$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	-1	($\frac{3\pi}{2}$, -1)
$\frac{5\pi}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{5\pi}{6}$, $\frac{1}{2}$)	$\frac{11\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{11\pi}{6}$, $-\frac{1}{2}$)
π	0	(π , 0)	2π	0	(2π , 0)

The Graph of the Sine Function $y = \sin x$

x	$y = \sin x$	(x, y)
0	0	(0, 0)
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{\pi}{6}$, $\frac{1}{2}$)
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	1	($\frac{\pi}{2}$, 1)
$\frac{5\pi}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{5\pi}{6}$, $\frac{1}{2}$)
π	0	(π , 0)
$\frac{7\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{7\pi}{6}$, $-\frac{1}{2}$)
$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	-1	($\frac{3\pi}{2}$, -1)
$\frac{11\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{1}{2}$	($\frac{11\pi}{6}$, $-\frac{1}{2}$)
2π	0	(2π , 0)

$y = \sin x, 0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$

$y = \sin x, -\infty < x < \infty$

Properties of the Graph of $y = \sin$

- The period is 2π .
- The domain is the set of real numbers.
- The range is the set of real numbers between -1 and 1 , inclusive.
- The x -intercepts are located at πn , where n is an integer.
- The y -intercept is 0 .
- The maximum values are $y = 1$ and occur when $x = \frac{\pi}{2} + 2\pi n$, where n is an integer.
- The minimum values are $y = -1$ and occur when $x = \frac{3\pi}{2} + 2\pi n$, where n is an integer.



