

Section 8.2 Arithmetic Sequences and Partial Sums

Objective: In this lesson you learned how to recognize, write, and use arithmetic sequences.

Course Number

Instructor

Date

Important Vocabulary

Define each term or concept.

Arithmetic sequence

I. Arithmetic Sequences (Pages 592–594)

The common difference of an arithmetic sequence is . . .

What you should learn
How to recognize, write, and find the n th terms of arithmetic sequences

The n th term of an arithmetic sequence has the form

_____ , where d is the common difference

between consecutive terms of the sequence, and $c = a_1 - d$. An

arithmetic sequence $a_n = dn + c$ can be thought of as _____

_____ after a shift of _____ units from _____.

Example 1: Determine whether or not the following sequence is arithmetic. If it is, find the common difference.
7, 3, -1, -5, -9, . . .

Example 2: Find a formula for the n th term of the arithmetic sequence whose common difference is 2 and whose first term is 7.

The n th term of an arithmetic sequence has the alternative recursion formula _____.

Example 3: Find the sixth term of the arithmetic sequence that begins with 15 and 12.

II. The Sum of a Finite Arithmetic Sequence

(Pages 595–596)

The sum of a finite arithmetic sequence with n terms is given by

_____.

The sum of the first n terms of an infinite sequence is called the

_____.

Example 4: Find the sum of the first 20 terms of the sequence with n th term $a_n = 28 - 5n$.

What you should learn

How to find n th partial sums of arithmetic sequences

III. Applications of Arithmetic Sequences (Pages 596–597)

Describe a real-life problem that could be solved by finding the sum of a finite arithmetic sequence.

What you should learn

How to use arithmetic sequences to model and solve real-life problems

Additional notes**Homework Assignment**

Page(s)

Exercises