

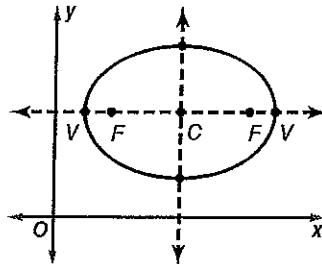
7-2 Study Guide and Intervention

Ellipses and Circles

Analyze and Graph Ellipses and Circles An ellipse is the locus of points in a plane such that the sum of the distances from two fixed points, called **foci**, is constant.

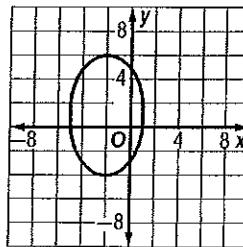
The standard form of the equation of an ellipse is

$\frac{(x-h)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(y-k)^2}{b^2} = 1$ when the **major axis** is horizontal. In this case, a^2 is in the denominator of the x -term. The standard form is $\frac{(y-k)^2}{a^2} + \frac{(x-h)^2}{b^2} = 1$ when the major axis is vertical. In this case, a^2 is in the denominator of the y -term. In both cases, $c^2 = a^2 - b^2$.


Example

Graph the ellipse given by the equation $\frac{(y-1)^2}{25} + \frac{(x+2)^2}{9} = 1$.

The equation is in standard form. Use the values of h , k , a , and b to determine the vertices and axes of the ellipse. Since $a^2 > b^2$, $a^2 = 25$ and $b^2 = 9$, or $a = 5$ and $b = 3$. Since a^2 is the denominator of the y -term, the major axis is parallel to the y -axis.



orientation: vertical

center: $(-2, 1)$

(h, k)

vertices: $(-2, 6)$, $(-2, -4)$

$(h, k \pm a)$

co-vertices: $(-5, 1)$, $(1, 1)$

$(h \pm b, k)$

major axis: $x = -2$

$x = h$

minor axis: $y = 1$

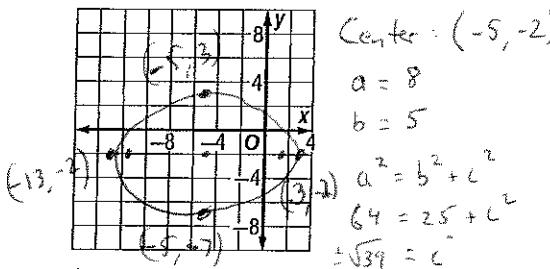
$y = k$

- Foci
- 1) $(-5 \pm \sqrt{39}, -1)$
 - 2) $(-6, -1) \text{ & } (2, -1)$
 - 3) $(-3, -1 \pm \sqrt{7})$
 - 4) $(2, -3 \pm \sqrt{39})$

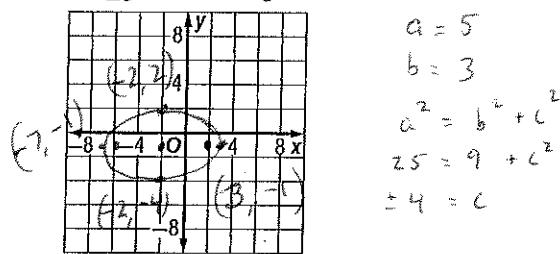
Exercises

Graph the ellipse given by each equation.

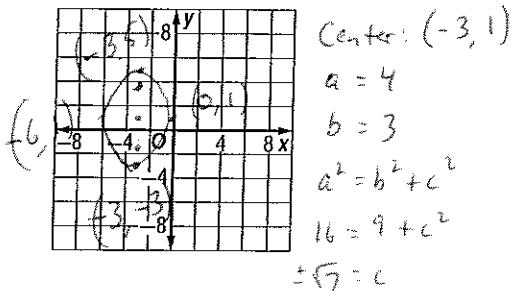
1. $\frac{(x+5)^2}{64} + \frac{(y+2)^2}{25} = 1$



2. $\frac{(x+2)^2}{25} + \frac{(y+1)^2}{9} = 1$ Center: $(-2, -1)$



3. $\frac{(y-1)^2}{16} + \frac{(x+3)^2}{9} = 1$



4. $\frac{(y+3)^2}{64} + \frac{(x-2)^2}{25} = 1$

