

Reteaching with Practice

For use with pages 404–410

GOAL

Identify and use reflections in a plane and identify relationships between reflections and line symmetry.

VOCABULARY

A transformation which uses a line that acts like a mirror, with an image reflected in the line, is called a **reflection**. The line which acts like a mirror in a reflection is called the **line of reflection**.

A figure in the plane has a **line of symmetry** if the figure can be mapped onto itself by a reflection in the line.

Theorem 7.1 Reflection Theorem

A reflection is an isometry.

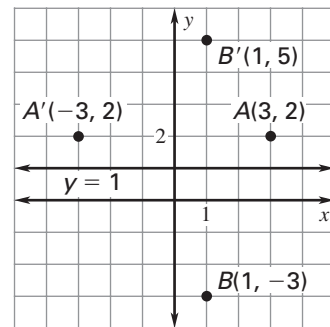
EXAMPLE 1**Reflections in a Coordinate Plane**

Graph the given reflection.

- $A(3, 2)$ in the y -axis
- $B(1, -3)$ in the line $y = 1$

SOLUTION

- Since A is three units to the right of the y -axis, its reflection, A' , is three units to the left of the y -axis.
- Start by graphing $y = 1$ and B . From the graph, you can see that B is 4 units below the line of reflection. This implies that its reflection, B' , is 4 units above the line.

**Exercises for Example 1**

In Exercises 1–8, graph the given reflection.

- $C(-1, 4)$ in the x -axis
- $D(0, 3)$ in the y -axis
- $E(4, -2)$ in the line $y = 3$
- $F(1, -2)$ in the line $y = -2$
- $G(3, 5)$ in the line $x = 1$
- $H(-3, -1)$ in the line $x = 4$
- $I(4, 5)$ in the line $x = -2$
- $J(-2, 3)$ in the line $y = 1$

EXAMPLE 2**Finding Lines of Symmetry**

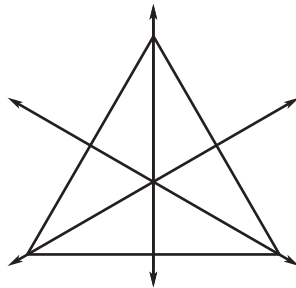
Triangles can have different lines of symmetry depending on their shape. Find the number of lines of symmetry a triangle has when it is one of the following.

- equilateral
- isosceles
- scalene

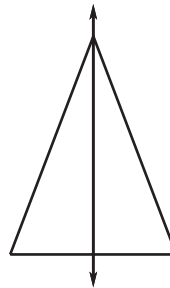
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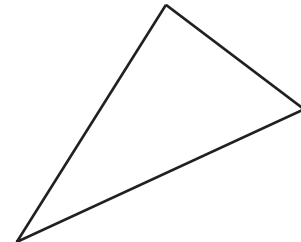
SOLUTION



- a. Equilateral triangles have three lines of symmetry.



- b. Isosceles triangles have one line of symmetry.



- c. Scalene triangles do not have any lines of symmetry.

Exercises for Example 2

Find the number of lines of symmetry for the figure described.

9. Rectangle

10. Kite

EXAMPLE 3 Finding a Minimum Distance

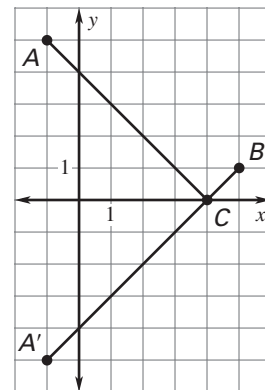
Find point C on the x -axis so $AC + BC$ is a minimum where A is $(-1, 5)$ and B is $(5, 1)$.

SOLUTION

Reflect A in the x -axis to obtain $A'(-1, -5)$. Then, draw $\overline{A'B}$. Label the point at which this segment intersects the x -axis as C . Because $\overline{A'B}$ represents the shortest distance between A' and B , and $AC = A'C$, you can conclude that at point C a minimum length is obtained. Next, to find the coordinates of C , find an

$$\text{equation for } \overline{A'B}. \text{ Slope of } \overline{A'B} = \frac{1 - (-5)}{5 - (-1)} = \frac{6}{6} = 1$$

Then use this slope and $A'(-1, -5)$ in $y - y_o = m(x - x_o)$ to get $y + 5 = x + 1$ or $y = x - 4$. Because C is on the x -axis, $y = 0$, so $x = 4$. Therefore, C is $(4, 0)$.



Exercises for Example 3

In Exercises 11–13, find point C on the x -axis so $AC + CB$ is a minimum.

11. $A(-1, -2)$, $B(8, -4)$

12. $A(1, 4)$, $B(8, 3)$

13. $A(-1.5, 6)$, $B(6, 9)$