

Polar Coordinate System

1. Graph polar coordinates

rectangular system (x, y)
 polar system (r, θ)

Graph $(3, 60^\circ)$

Start here!

① $(1, \frac{\pi}{3})$ ③ $(1, -\frac{\pi}{3})$
 ② $(-1, \frac{\pi}{3})$ ④ $(-1, -\frac{\pi}{3}) =$
 $(1, \frac{2\pi}{3})$

Note: Polar coordinates are NOT unique!

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2. Graph polar equations

1. $r = 7$ $\Rightarrow x = 7$ \Rightarrow y can be anything

2. $\theta = \frac{\pi}{6}$

r is +
r is negative

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3. Graph $r = 2 \cos \theta$

polar equation $\Rightarrow y = f(x) = x + 1$
 $r = f(\theta) = 2 \cos \theta$

θ	$\cos \theta$	$2 \cos \theta$	(r, θ)
0	1	2	$(2, 0)$
$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\sqrt{3}$	$(\sqrt{3}, \frac{\pi}{6})$
$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\sqrt{2}$	$(\sqrt{2}, \frac{\pi}{4})$
$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$(1, \frac{\pi}{3})$
$\frac{\pi}{2}$	0	0	$(0, \frac{\pi}{2})$
$\frac{3\pi}{4}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$-\sqrt{2}$	$(-\sqrt{2}, \frac{3\pi}{4})$
$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	0	0	$(0, \frac{3\pi}{2})$
$\frac{5\pi}{6}$	$-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$-\sqrt{3}$	$(-\sqrt{3}, \frac{5\pi}{6})$

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