

## E The number plane

The **number plane**, also referred to as a **Cartesian plane**, consists of four **quadrants**. Two number lines, the **x-axis** and **y-axis**, intersect at right angles to form the number plane.

**Coordinate** numbers are used to locate a point in the number plane.

- The **horizontal** ( $x$ ) position of the point is given first.
- The **vertical** ( $y$ ) position of the point is given second.

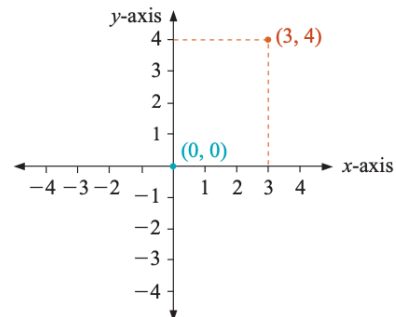
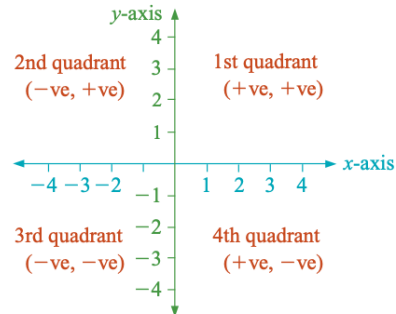
Each quadrant contains coordinates that are specific to that quadrant. For example, in the 1st quadrant both the  $x$ - and  $y$ -coordinates are positive.

So the point at  $(3, 4)$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are both positive, must be in the first quadrant.

- '3' is first, so it gives the horizontal ( $x$ ) position.
- '4' is second, so it gives the vertical ( $y$ ) position.

The intersection of the  $x$  and  $y$  values is where the point  $(3, 4)$  lies.

The point  $(0, 0)$  in the middle, where the axes intersect, is called the **origin**.

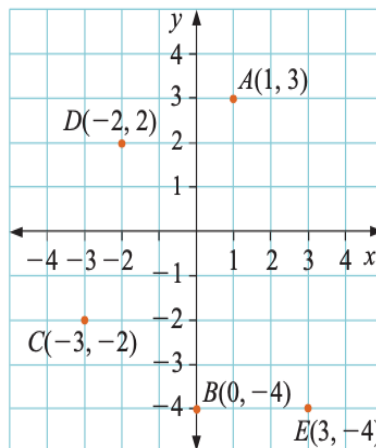


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### EXAMPLE 1

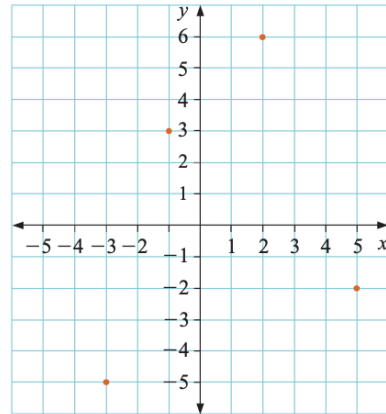
Plot points  $A(1, 3)$ ,  $B(0, -4)$ ,  $C(-3, -2)$ ,  $D(-2, 2)$  and  $E(3, -4)$  on a number plane.



Don't forget to label the axes. !

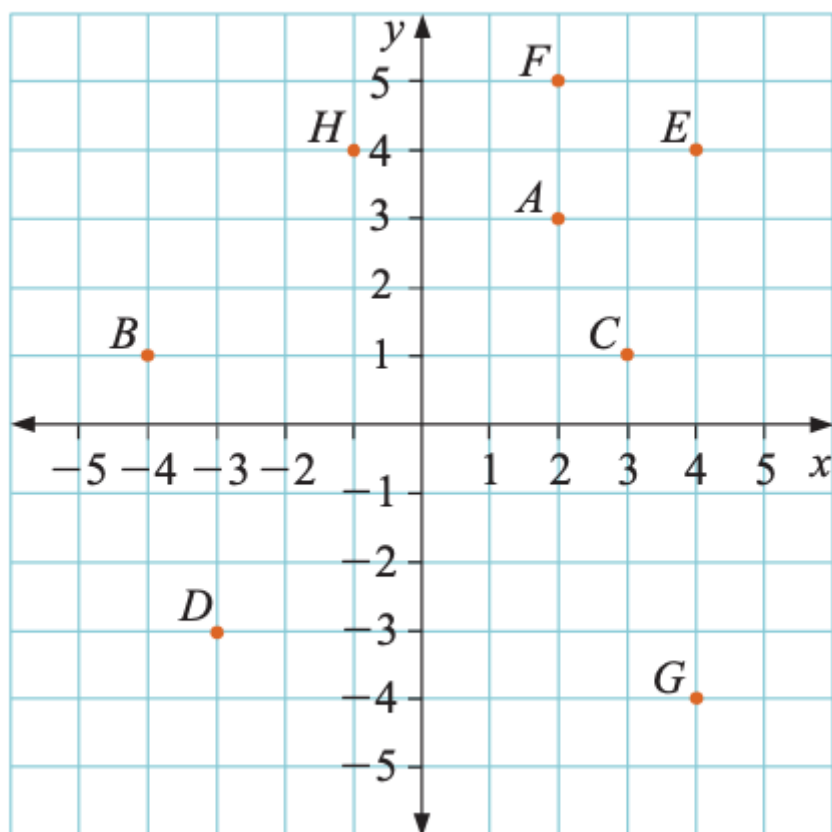
## Exercise 2E

- 1 Copy the number plane and label the following points.  
 $A(-3, -5)$        $B(2, 6)$        $C(5, -2)$        $D(-1, 3)$
- 2 Plot the following points on a number plane.  
 $E(1, 1)$        $F(-2, -5)$        $G(0, 2)$        $H(-3, 0)$
- 3 Plot the following points on a number plane.  
 $I(3, -5)$        $J(4, 0)$        $K(4, 2)$        $L(-4, 5)$
- 4 Plot the following points on a number plane.  
 $M(0, -2)$        $N(4, 4)$        $O(0, 0)$   
 $P(-3, -2)$        $Q(-5, 2)$        $R(-5, -5)$   
 $S(-1, 3)$        $T(-1, 2)$        $U(2, -5)$



- 5 Complete each sentence by correctly inserting 'positive' or 'negative'.
  - a
    - i In the 1st quadrant, the  $x$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_ and the  $y$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii Give four examples of points that could lie in the 1st quadrant.
  - b
    - i In the 2nd quadrant, the  $x$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_ and the  $y$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii Give four examples of points that could lie in the 2nd quadrant.
  - c
    - i In the 3rd quadrant, the  $x$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_ and the  $y$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii Give four examples of points that could lie in the 3rd quadrant.
  - d
    - i In the 4th quadrant, the  $x$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_ and the  $y$ -coordinate is \_\_\_\_\_.
    - ii Give four examples of points that could lie in the 4th quadrant.

- 6** Eight points have been plotted on this number plane.
- a** Write the coordinates of each point.
  - b** Name two points with the same  $x$ -coordinate. What do you notice about their positions on the number plane?
  - c** Name two points with the same  $y$ -coordinate. What do you notice about their positions on the number plane?
  - d** Name two points with the  $x$ -coordinate equal to the  $y$ -coordinate. What do you notice about their positions on the number plane?



**7** Write the coordinates of the letters *A* to *Z* shown on the number plane; for example,  $A(-5, 5)$ .

**8 a** Plot points  $A(-3, 3)$ ,  $B(1, 3)$  and  $C(1, -1)$  on a number plane.

**b** If  $ABCD$  is a square, find the coordinates of point  $D$ .

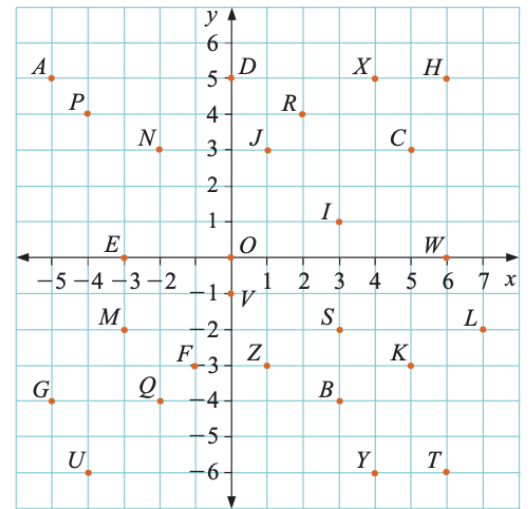
**9 a** Plot points  $P(-4, 0)$ ,  $Q(-4, 5)$  and  $R(3, 5)$  on a number plane.

**b** If  $PQRS$  is a rectangle, find the coordinates of point  $S$ .

**10 a** Plot points  $A(-3, -2)$ ,  $B(-2, -1)$ ,  $C(-1, 0)$ ,  $D(0, 1)$  and  $E(1, 2)$  on the same number plane. Join the points.

**b** What do you notice?

**c** What are the coordinates of the next three points,  $F$ ,  $G$  and  $H$ , if the pattern continues?



**11 a** Plot points  $A(5, 3)$ ,  $B(4, 2)$ ,  $C(3, 1)$ ,  $D(2, 0)$  and  $E(1, -1)$  on the same number plane. Join the points.

**b** What are the next three points,  $F$ ,  $G$  and  $H$ , if the pattern continues?