Reteaching The Cosine Function

Problem

What is the graph of $y = 3 \cos \frac{\pi}{2}\theta$ in the interval from 0 to 2π ?

Step 1 Compare the function to $y = a \cos b\theta$.

$$a = 3$$
 and $b = \frac{\pi}{2}$

Find the amplitude.

$$|a| = |3| = 3$$

Find the period of the curve.

$$\frac{2\pi}{b} = \frac{2\pi}{\frac{\pi}{2}} = 4$$

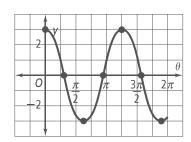
Step 2 Find the minimum and maximum of the curve. Because the amplitude is 3, the maximum is 3 and the minimum is -3.

Step 3 Make a table of values. Choose θ -values at intervals of one-fourth the period: $\frac{4}{4} = 1$. The *y*-values cycle through the pattern *max-zero-min-zero-max*.

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θ	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	ľ
У	3	0	-3	0	3	0	-3	
								٦

Step 4 Plot the points from the table.

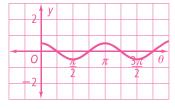
Step 5 Draw a smooth curve through the points.



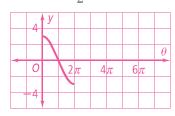
Exercises

Sketch the graph of each function in the interval from 0 to 2π .

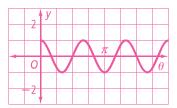
1.
$$y = \frac{1}{2}\cos 2\theta$$



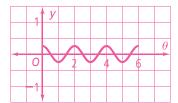
2.
$$y = 3 \cos \frac{1}{2}\theta$$



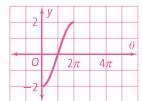
3.
$$y = \cos 3\theta$$



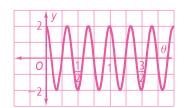
4.
$$y = \frac{1}{4}\cos \pi\theta$$



5.
$$y = -2\cos\frac{1}{2}\theta$$



6.
$$y = 2\cos 6\pi\theta$$



Reteaching (continued) The Cosine Function

Solving a sine or cosine equation is similar to solving a system of two linear equations. You can graph each side of the equation. The solutions will be the points where the graphs intersect.

Problem

What are the solutions of $3\cos\frac{1}{2}\theta = 2$ in the interval 0 to 4π ?

Step 1 Set each side of the equation equal to *y*.

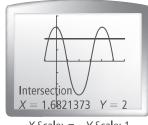
$$y = 3\cos\frac{1}{2}\theta$$

$$v = 2$$

- **Step 2** Graph each equation on the same grid.
- **Step 3** Between $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = 4\pi$, the graphs intersect 2 times. Use the **Intersect** feature to find the coordinates of these points.



x Scale: π y Scale: 1



X Scale: π Y Scale: 1



X Scale:
$$\pi$$
 Y Scale: 1

The solutions of $3\cos\frac{1}{2}\theta = 2$ in the interval 0 to 4π are $\theta \approx 1.68$ and 10.88.

Exercises

Find all solutions in the interval from 0 to 2π . Round to the nearest hundredth.

7.
$$-\cos\theta = \frac{3}{4}$$

8.
$$2\cos\theta = 1$$

9.
$$3\cos\pi\theta=2$$

10.
$$\cos \frac{1}{2} \pi \theta = -0.5$$

11.
$$\frac{1}{2}\cos 4\theta = 0$$

12.
$$-3\cos 2\pi\theta = 2.5$$

13.
$$5\cos 4\theta = 3$$

14.
$$\frac{3}{4}\cos\frac{1}{2}\pi\theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

15.
$$-4\cos 2\theta = 2$$

4.94, 6.05