

Direct/Inverse Variation
Worksheet

Direct Variation: $y = kx$

Inverse Variation: $y = \frac{k}{x}$

Find the missing variable:

1) y varies directly with x. If y = -4 when x = 2, find y when x = -6.

$y = kx \rightarrow -4 = k(2) \rightarrow \frac{-4}{2} = \frac{k(2)}{2} \rightarrow k = -2$
 $y = (-2)(-6) \rightarrow y = 12$

2) y varies inversely with x. If y = 40 when x = 16, find x when y = -5.

$y = \frac{k}{x} \rightarrow 16 \cdot 40 = \frac{k}{16} \cdot 16 \rightarrow k = 640$
 $x \cdot -5 = \frac{640}{x} \cdot x \rightarrow -5x = \frac{640}{-5} \rightarrow x = -128$

Classify the following as direct variation, inverse variation, or neither.

3) $m = -5p$

Direct

4) $c = \frac{t}{4}$

Direct

$y = \frac{-3}{x}$
inverse

5) $xy + 3 = 0$

$\frac{xy}{x} = \frac{-3}{x} \rightarrow y = \frac{-3}{x}$

6) $r = \frac{9}{d}$

inverse

7) $n = 2x + 3$

neither

8) $xy = 5$

$\frac{xy}{x} = \frac{5}{x} \rightarrow y = \frac{5}{x}$ inverse

What is the constant of variation for the following?

9) $d = 4t$

$k = 4$

10) $z = \frac{-0.2}{t}$

$k = -0.2$

11) $n = \frac{x}{2} \rightarrow n = \frac{1}{2}x$

$k = \frac{1}{2}$

12) The cost per person to rent a mountain cabin is inversely proportional (varies inversely) to the number of people who share the rent. If the cost is \$36 per person when 5 people share, what is the cost per person when 8 people share?

$C = \frac{k}{n} \rightarrow 5 \cdot 36 = \frac{k}{5} \cdot 5 \rightarrow k = 180$
 $C = \frac{180}{8} \rightarrow C = \22.50

13) The amount of money earned on a job is directly proportional (varies directly) to the number of hours worked. If \$36 is earned for 8 hours of work, how much is earned for 30 hours of work?

$M = kh \rightarrow \frac{36}{8} = \frac{k(8)}{8} \rightarrow k = 4.5 \rightarrow M = (4.5)(30) \rightarrow M = \135

Tell whether the table represent direct variation, inverse variation, or neither. If direct or inverse variation write the equation.

14)

X	2	5	-2	-5	-1
Y	12.5	5	-12.5	-5	-25

$y = \frac{25}{x}$ inverse
 $-5 = \frac{k}{-1} \rightarrow k = 25$
 $-12.5 = \frac{25}{-2}$

15)

X	2	4	6	8	10
Y	1	2	3	4	5

$y = kx$
 $1 = k(2) \rightarrow k = \frac{1}{2}$
 $y = \frac{1}{2}x$ direct