Graphing Sine and Cosine

First, let's look at the parent graphs of sine and cosine:



Notes:

- The sine parent graph crosses through the origin.
- The sine and cosine parent graphs each oscillate between y = -1 and y = 1.
- The ordered pairs for these graphs were derived from the unit circle.

To graph sine and cosine, use the general forms:

$$y = Asin[B(x - C)] + D \qquad \qquad y = Acos[B(x - C)] + D$$

Transformations of the parent graphs can include:

1. A change in *amplitude*: The amplitude is |A|. Graphically it is the distance from the midline to the top and bottom of the graph. The amplitude of the parent graphs is 1.



2. A *reflection* over the x-axis: If A < 0, then the graph is reflected over the x-axis.

3. A change in the *period* of the function: The period of sine and cosine functions is found by evaluating $\frac{2\pi}{B}$ for B > 0. The period of a function is the length of one cycle. The period of the parent graphs of sine and cosine is 2π since B = 1.

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4. *Horizontal translation* also called a phase shift: The phase shift of the parent graph is C. This is how far the graph is shifted to the right (for C > 0) or to the left (for C < 0).

5. *Vertical Translation*: The distance that the graph is shifted vertically is D. The graph is shifted up for D > 0 and down for D < 0.

Example Graphs:







Example Problem:

Determine the amplitude, period, phase shift, and vertical shift. Then graph two cycles of the function: $y = 3\sin(2x + \frac{\pi}{2})$

1. Rewrite in general form by factoring a 2 out of $2x + \frac{\pi}{2}$: $y = 3\sin[2(x + \frac{\pi}{4})]$ From this equation we get: $A = 3, B = 2, C = -\frac{\pi}{4}$ and D = 0

So, the amplitude is A = 3, the period is $\frac{2\pi}{B} = \frac{2\pi}{2} = \pi$, the phase shift is $\frac{\pi}{4}$ units to the left, and there is no vertical shift.

- 2. Find 5 key points on the graph by using the 5 key x-values from the parent graphs: $0, \frac{\pi}{2}, \pi, \frac{3\pi}{2}$, and 2π .
 - a. Divide each x-coordinate from the parent graph by B and then add C.
 - b. Multiply each y-coordinate by A and then add D.

5 key points on the parent graph of $y = sin(x)$	(0, 0)	$(\frac{\pi}{2}, 1)$	$(\pi, 0)$	$(\frac{3\pi}{2}, -1)$	$(2\pi, 0)$
5 key points on the transformed graph of $y = 3\sin[2\left(x + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)]$	$(-\frac{\pi}{4}, 0)$	(0, 3)	$(\frac{\pi}{4},0)$	$(\frac{\pi}{2}, -3)$	$(\frac{3\pi}{4},0)$

3. Sketch a graph using these five points:

