

Limit Definition of a Derivative

name Key

$$1. \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} = \text{cos } x \quad \begin{matrix} f(x) = \sin x \\ f'(x) = \cos x \end{matrix}$$

$$2. \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^2 - 2(x+h) - 3 - (x^2 - 2x - 3)}{h} = 2x - 2 \quad \begin{matrix} f(x) = x^2 - 2x - 3 \\ f'(x) = 2x - 2 \end{matrix}$$

$$3. \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2(x+h)^2 - (x+h) + 3 - (2x^2 - x + 3)}{h} = 4x - 1 \quad \begin{matrix} f(x) = 2x^2 - x + 3 \\ f'(x) = 4x - 1 \end{matrix}$$

$$4. \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{2(2+h)^2 - (2+h) + 3 - 2(2)^2 + 2 - 3}{h} = 7 \quad \begin{matrix} f(x) = 2x^2 - x + 3 \\ f'(x) = 4x - 1 \\ f'(2) = 4(2) - 1 = 7 \end{matrix}$$

$$5. \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(\pi+h) - \cos \pi}{h} = 0 \quad \begin{matrix} f(x) = \cos x \\ f'(x) = -\sin x \\ f'(\pi) = -\sin \pi = 0 \end{matrix}$$

6. Use the limit definition to find the derivative of $f(x) = x^2 - 2x$

$$f' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^2 - 2(x+h) - (x^2 - 2x)}{h}$$

$$f' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x^2 + 2xh + h^2 - 2x - 2h - x^2 + 2x}{h}$$

$$f' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(2x+h-2)}{x} = 2x - 2$$

7. Use the limit definition to find the slope of the tangent line of $f(x)$ at $x=3$.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2x-3}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \frac{\frac{1}{2x-3} - \frac{1}{3}}{x-3} = f'(3)$$

$$f'(3) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[\left(\frac{3 - (2x-3)}{3(2x-3)} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{x-3} \right]$$

$$f'(3) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[\frac{-2x+6}{3(2x-3)} \cdot \frac{1}{x-3} \right] = \lim_{x \rightarrow 3} \left[\frac{-2(x-3)}{3(2x-3)} \cdot \frac{1}{x-3} \right] = \frac{-2}{9}$$