

# Kruskals Algorithm

**Kruskal's Algorithm** is used to find the minimum spanning tree for a connected weighted graph. The main target of the algorithm is to find the subset of edges by using which we can traverse every vertex of the graph. It follows the greedy approach that finds an optimum solution at every stage instead of focusing on a global optimum.

## How does Kruskal's algorithm work?

In Kruskal's algorithm, we start from edges with the lowest weight and keep adding the edges until the goal is reached. The steps to implement Kruskal's algorithm are listed as follows -

- First, sort all the edges from low weight to high.
- Now, take the edge with the lowest weight and add it to the spanning tree. If the edge to be added creates a cycle, then reject the edge.
- Continue to add the edges until we reach all vertices, and a minimum spanning tree is created.

Time complexity =  $E \log E$

```
sort all edges in graph G in order of their increasing weights;
repeat V-1 times    // as MST contains V-1 edges
{
    select the next edge with minimum weight from graph G;

    if (no cycle is formed by adding the edge in MST, i.e., the edge connects two
        different connected components in MST)
        add the edge to MST;
}
```