

Scalars and Vectors Help Sheet

Reporting the direction of a vector

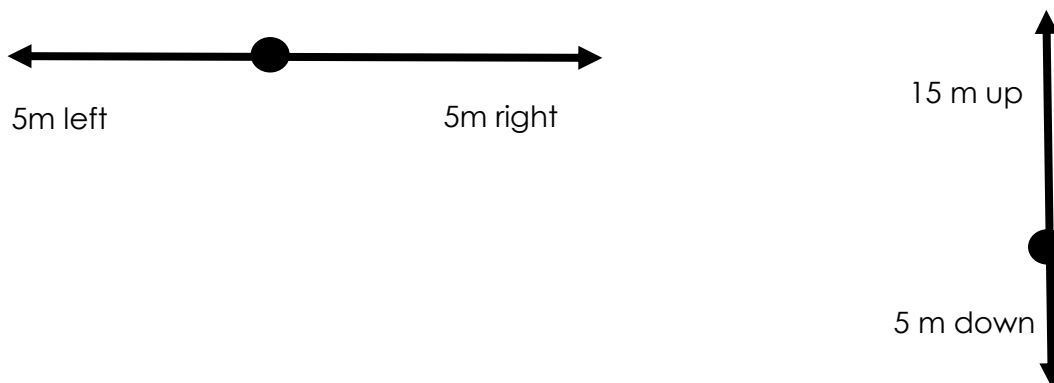
Vectors are quantities that have both size and direction so if you are calculating a vector you must include a direction with your answer.

The most common vectors to calculate are displacement, velocity and resultant force.

Unless otherwise stated the displacement of an object refers to how far away it is from its original position.

For example if a person takes walks 2 m to the right their displacement is 2 m right.

A fixed point can be used as a reference point for movement in a horizontal direction (left or right)



A fixed point can be used as a reference point for movement in a vertical direction (up or down)

A fixed point can be used as a reference point for compass bearing:

- This can be as simple as North, South, East and West.
- North-west, south-west, north-east and south-east are between the main points.

A specific measurement for a compass bearing is measured from north or 0° in a clockwise direction

