

# Y7 Sequences

## What do I need to be able to do?

By the end of this unit you should be able to:

- Describe and continue both linear and non-linear sequences
- Explain term to term rules for linear sequence
- Find missing terms in a linear sequence

## Keywords

- Sequence:** items or numbers put in a pre-decided order
- Term:** a single number or variable
- Position:** the place something is located
- Rule:** instructions that relate two variables
- Linear:** the difference between terms increases or decreases by the same value each time
- Non-linear:** the difference between terms increases or decreases in different amounts
- Difference:** the gap between two terms
- Arithmetic:** a sequence where the difference between the terms is constant
- Geometric:** a sequence where each term is found by multiplying the previous one by a fixed non zero number



## Describe and continue a sequence diagrammatically

Count the number of circles or lines in each image

## Predict and check terms

**Predictions:**  
Look at your pattern and consider how it will increase.  
e.g. How many lines in pattern 6?  
**Prediction - 13**  
If it is increasing by 2 each time - in 3 more patterns there will be 6 more lines

## Sequence in a table and graphically

**Position:** the place in the sequence

**Term:** the number or variable (the number of squares in each image)

**In a table**

Position	1	2	3
Term	3	5	7

Graphically

Because the terms increase by the same addition each time this is **linear** - as seen in the graph

## Linear and Non Linear Sequences

**Linear Sequences** - increase by addition or subtraction and the same amount each time

**Non-linear Sequences** - do not increase by a constant amount - quadratic, geometric and Fibonacci

- Do not plot as straight lines when modelled graphically
- The differences between terms can be found by addition, subtraction, multiplication or division

**Fibonacci Sequence** - look out for this type of sequence

0 1 1 2 3 5 8 ...

Each term is the sum of the previous two terms.

## Continue Linear Sequences

7, 11, 15, 19...

- How do I know this is a linear sequence?**  
It increases by adding 4 to each term
- How many terms do I need to make this conclusion?**  
At least 4 terms - two terms only shows one difference not if this difference is constant. (a common difference).
- How do I continue the sequence?**  
You continue to repeat the same difference through the next positions in the sequence.



## Continue non-linear Sequences

1, 2, 4, 8, 16 ...

- How do I know this is a non-linear sequence?**  
It increases by multiplying the previous term by 2 - this is a geometric sequence because the constant is multiply by 2
- How many terms do I need to make this conclusion?**  
At least 4 terms - two terms only shows one difference not if this difference is constant. (a common difference).
- How do I continue the sequence?**  
You continue to repeat the same difference through the next positions in the sequence.



## Explain term-to-term rule

- How you get from term to term
- Try to explain this in full sentences not just with mathematical notation
- Use key maths language - doubles, halves, multiply by two, add four to the previous term etc.
- To explain a whole sequence you need to include a term to begin at...

The next term is found by tripling the previous term. The sequence begins at 4.

4, 12, 36, 108...

First term