

Key Motion Terms

Use the glossary to find the definitions of the following:

Position; Distance, Displacement, Speed, Velocity, Acceleration & Time.

Average Speed = Distance/Time

$$v_{sp} = \frac{d}{t}$$

change in position

Average Velocity = Displacement/Time

vector direction matters

$$\vec{v}_{avg} = \frac{\vec{d}_f - \vec{d}_o}{t}$$

final position *starting position*

Calculating Distance, Displacement, Speed & Velocity

A car drives 20 km [E], 45 km [W], 35 km [W] and finally 80 km [E]. All of this happens in 5 hours.

a) Calculate the distance traveled.

$$\text{distance, } d = 20 + 45 + 35 + 80$$

$d = 180 \text{ km}$

b) Calculate the car's final position. 

* Initial position, $\vec{d}_0 = 0\text{m}$

$$\text{final } \vec{d}_f = 20 - \underbrace{45 - 35}_{\text{West}} + 80 \quad [= 20 \text{ km [E]}]$$

c) Calculate the car's average speed.

$$v_{sp} = \frac{d}{t} = \frac{180 \text{ km}}{5 \text{ hr}} = \boxed{36 \text{ km/h}}$$

total distance

d) Calculate the car's average velocity.

$$\vec{v}_{avg} = \frac{\vec{d}}{t} = \frac{20 \text{ km}}{5 \text{ h}} = \boxed{4 \text{ km/h [E]}}$$

Calculating Distance, Displacement, Speed & Velocity

A car drives 120 km [S], 75 km [N], 55 km [S] and finally 25 km [N]. This happens in 3 hours.

a) Calculate the distance traveled.

$$d = 120 + 75 + 55 + 25$$

$d = 275 \text{ Km}$



b) Calculate the car's final position.

$$\vec{d} = -120 + 75 - 55 + 25$$

$\vec{d} = -75 \text{ Km}$

* That means 75 km South of start.

c) Calculate the car's average speed.

$$\bar{v}_{sp} = \frac{d}{t} = \frac{275 \text{ Km}}{3 \text{ h}} = \boxed{92 \text{ Km/h}}$$

d) Calculate the car's average velocity.

$$\bar{v}_{avg} = \frac{\vec{d}}{t} = \frac{-75 \text{ Km}}{3 \text{ h}}$$

$\bar{v}_{avg} = -25 \text{ Km/h}$

25 km/h
South
for 3 hrs.