



# 'How To' Guide – Glossary



- **Axes** – Axes are the horizontal and vertical lines that make up the basic structure of a graph. A single line is called an axis. More than one are called axes.  
The x-axis is the horizontal line.  
The y-axis is the vertical line.
- **BIDMAS** – Sometimes referred to as BODMAS. This is the order that calculators are programmed to do calculations. It stands for Brackets, Indices (powers), Division, Multiplication, Addition and Subtraction.
- **Categorical data** – Data that can be separated into groups. This can be words or single numbers. For example, colours.
- **Continuous data** – Data that are numerical measurements, such as height, mass, time, distance, etc.
- **Crosshair** – The cross in the centre of a protractor. This is the point that needs to be lined up with the corner of an angle.
- **Denominator** – The bottom number on a fraction.
- **Discrete data** – Numerical data that is not a measurement. E.g. the number of cars or the score on a test.
- **Frequency** – The amount of something or the number of times something happens.
- **Horizontal** – Across from left to right. Lying down. A way to remember it is that it is parallel to the horizon.
- **Numerator** – The top number of a fraction.
- **Operation** – These are the mathematical processes used to work something out. E.g. add, subtract, multiply, divide, square, square root, etc.
- **Unit** – A standard measurement. Units depend on what is being measured. For example, distances can be measured in anything from millimetres to miles, whereas mass can be measured in grams, kilograms, pounds, stone and more.
- **Vertical** – From top to bottom. Stood up. A way to remember it is that people get vertigo when they are high up.