

Graphs of Cosecant, Secant, and Cotangent  
With Shifts  
Module 3, Unit 7, Lesson 10

**Graphs of Cosecant and Secant**

We obtain the graphs of the cosecant and secant curves by using the reciprocal identities

$$\csc x = \frac{1}{\sin x} \quad \text{and} \quad \sec x = \frac{1}{\cos x}$$

**Steps to Graphing Cosecant and Secant**

1. Graph the sine or cosine function.
  - a. Dash the function.
2. Since cosecant and secant are reciprocal identities:
  - a. Intercepts become asymptotes.
  - b. Maximums become minimums.
  - c. Minimums become maximums.

**Example 1:** Graph one period of the given function.

a.  $f(x) = 3\sec(x + \pi)$



b.  $y = \csc\left(2x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + 1$



c.  $y = -3\csc(2\pi x + 4\pi)$



d.  $y = -2\sec \pi x - 1$

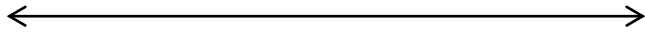


**Cotangent Functions**  $y = A \cot(Bx - C) + D$

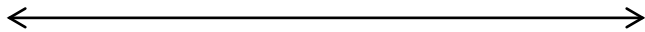
1. **Period**  $\frac{\pi}{B}$
2. **Interval** = period  $\times \frac{1}{4}$
3. **Asymptotes (Phase Shift)**  $Bx - C = 0$  and  $Bx - C = \pi$
4. **vertical shift**  $D$  – shift up or down (New intercept)
5. Identify an x-intercept, midway between the consecutive asymptotes.
6. Find the critical points on the graph  $\frac{1}{4}$  and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way between consecutive asymptotes. These points have y-coordinates  $A$  and  $-A$ , respectively.

**Example 2:** Graph one period of the function.

a.  $y = 2 \cot\left(x + \frac{\pi}{2}\right) - 1$



b.  $y = \cot\left(x + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$



c.  $y = 2 \cot 2x - 1$

