

CLASS 10

MATHS

REVISION NOTES

Revision Notes: Class 10 Maths Chapter 5 Arithmetic Progressions

A fast, one-glance recap of Class 10 Maths Chapter 5 (Arithmetic Progressions) — for full worked explanations, see the Solutions.

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A fast, one-glance recap of Class 10 Maths Chapter 5 (Arithmetic Progressions) — for full worked explanations, see the [Solutions](#).

Why This Chapter Matters

Arithmetic Progressions is one of the standard chapters in the CBSE/NCERT Class 10 Maths syllabus and questions from it appear regularly in board exams, in formats ranging from 1-mark objective questions to longer 3-5 mark descriptive or numerical questions. Because the concepts here often build on earlier chapters (and feed into later ones), a solid grip on this chapter also makes the rest of the Maths syllabus easier to follow.

Revision Notes: Arithmetic Progressions

AP definition: a sequence where the difference between any two consecutive terms is constant (the common difference, d)

General form: $a, a+d, a+2d, a+3d, \dots$

n th term: $a_n = a + (n-1)d$

n th term from the end (when last term l is known): treat l as first term with common difference $-d$

Sum of first n terms (when a, d known): $S_n = (n/2)[2a + (n-1)d]$

Sum of first n terms (when a , last term l known): $S_n = (n/2)(a + l)$

n th term from sums: $a_n = S_n - S_{n-1}$

Three consecutive AP terms are often taken as $(a-d), a, (a+d)$ for easier algebra (sum = $3a$)

Removed from current syllabus: Exercise 5.4 (optional exercise) is not part of the 2026-27 rationalised syllabus

Common exam traps: confusing “ n th term” with “sum of n terms”; forgetting the $(n-1)$ in a_n ; sign errors when d is negative

Related: [Solutions](#) | [Extra Questions](#) | [Revision Notes](#) | [Formulas Handbook](#) | [Class 10 Maths Book](#)

How to Use These Notes

These revision notes are meant for quick recall in the last few days before an exam or unit test — they are not a substitute for first reading the full chapter and working through examples in the NCERT textbook. A good routine is: read the chapter once, solve the in-text and end-of-chapter questions using the linked Solutions, then come back to this page a day or two before the exam to refresh the key definitions and formulas without re-reading the whole chapter.