flipping plysies

Flipping Physics Lecture Notes: Introduction to Velocity and Speed

Velocity: Symbol is lowercase v. Equation is:

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = \frac{x_f - x_i}{t_f - t_i}$$

Velocity has both Magnitude and Direction.

Example problem: Mr.p takes his dog Buster for a walk. If they walk for 27 minutes and travel 1.89 km East, what is their average velocity in meters per second?

Knowns: Δt = 27 minutes, Δx = 1.89 km East, v_{avg} = ?

$$v = \frac{\Delta x}{\Delta t} = \frac{1.89 \, km}{27 \, \text{min}} \times \frac{1000 \, m}{1 \, km} \times \frac{1 \, \text{min}}{60 \, \text{sec}} = 1.1\overline{6} \approx \boxed{1.2 \, \frac{m}{s} \, East}$$

Speed: $speed = \frac{distance}{time}$

Speed has Magnitude only with no direction

Velocity ≠ Speed just like Displacement ≠ Distance