Making Perpendicular and Parallel Lines - Step-by-Step Lesson

Draw a perpendicular line to point P

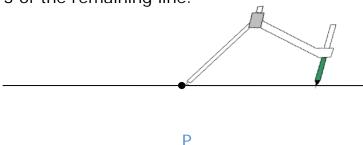


Explanation:

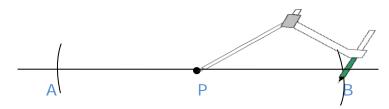
Start with a line and point P on that line. Just as we given.



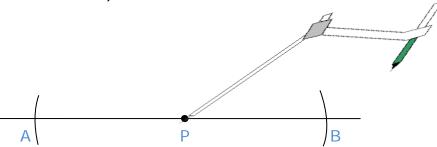
1. Place the compass point on the point and set it to a width that is about 2/3 of the remaining line.



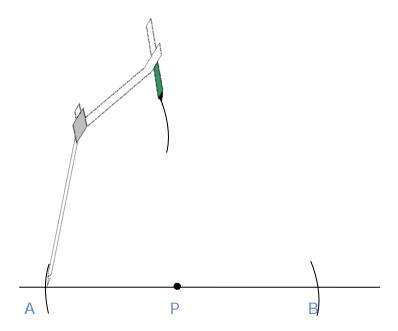
2. Without changing the compass width, mark a short arc on the line at each side of the point P. Label the points you have created. Here we name them points A and B. Both points are an equal distance from P.



3. Change the compass width to almost double its current width (doesn't need to be exact).

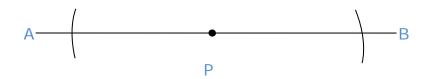


4. From A, mark off a short arc above P.

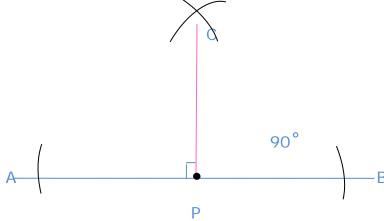


5. Repeat this same procedure for point B. You will create two arcs that cross each other, forming point C.





6. Using the straight edge, draw a line from P to where the arcs cross (Point C).



7. Done. The line just drawn is a perpendicular to the line at P