Vector Components

When given two or more vectors, we can find the resultant of the vectors by using a vector resolution method (adding vectors).

However, a vector can also be broken into two or more components (vectors that add up to that vector).

ex.

Vectors can also be broken into two perpendicular components. These two components will be at right angles to each other and will be in the N/S and E/W planes.

ex.

ex.
An airplane flies 360 km at 30 degrees N of W. Find the distance traveled in the north and west directions.

ex.
A curling rock slides across the ice at an angle of 5 degrees from the horizontal and stops to the side of the button. If the button is 36.5 m from the point of release:

a.) How far to the side of the button does the rock land?

b.) How far has the rock traveled?