Law-Ruled Paper: Wide Pleading Margin and Numbered Lines

Complete worked example / separate answer key

A hypothetical sheet is 216 mm wide. The outer vertical rule is at 20 mm, the inner rule at 45 mm, and the right rule at 200 mm. The first ruled line is 30 mm from the top, and spacing is 8 mm. Find the pleading margin width and the position of the fifth ruled line.

Answer: Pleading margin width = 45 − 20 = 25 mm. Fifth line position = 30 + 4 × 8 = 62 mm from the top.

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Original tasks 1, 2, 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 1

A hypothetical sheet has an outer rule at 18 mm and an inner rule at 42 mm. What is the pleading margin width?

Answer: 24 mm.

Reason: Subtract the outer rule position from the inner rule position: 42 − 18 = 24 mm.

Check: Measure both rule positions on the sheet and subtract; confirm the result is 24 mm.

Task 2

The first ruled line is 25 mm from the top and spacing is 7 mm. Where is the fourth ruled line?

Answer: 46 mm from the top.

Reason: The fourth line is three spacings below the first: 25 + 3 × 7 = 46 mm.

Check: Measure the fourth line from the top edge and compare with 46 mm.

Task 3

Line spacing is 10 mm. Using the baseline-to-midline convention, what is the midline height above the baseline?

Answer: 5 mm.

Reason: The midline is half the line spacing above the baseline: 10 ÷ 2 = 5 mm.

Check: Measure from baseline to midline on a ruled line and confirm 5 mm.

Task 4

A sheet has 12 ruled lines. If line numbers are placed one per line in the pleading margin, how many numbers are needed, and where should the first number sit?

Answer: 12 numbers; the first number sits in the pleading margin aligned with the first ruled line.

Reason: One number per ruled line gives 12 numbers. Alignment means the number and line share the same vertical position.

Check: Count the numbers and measure the first number against the first ruled line position.

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Worked example, Task 1, Task 2, Task 3, Task 4 / Separate answer page: worked example and four exercises

Answers, reasoning, and check methods are the source's own; the worked example is reproduced in full.

Worked example: A hypothetical sheet is 216 mm wide. The outer vertical rule is at 20 mm, the inner rule at 45 mm, and the right rule at 200 mm. The first ruled line is 30 mm from the top, and spacing is 8 mm. Find the pleading margin width and the position of the fifth ruled line.

Worked example answer: Pleading margin width = 45 − 20 = 25 mm. Fifth line position = 30 + 4 × 8 = 62 mm from the top.

Exercise 1 answer: 24 mm. Reasoning: Subtract the outer rule position from the inner rule position: 42 − 18 = 24 mm. Check: Measure both rule positions on the sheet and subtract; confirm the result is 24 mm.

Exercise 2 answer: 46 mm from the top. Reasoning: The fourth line is three spacings below the first: 25 + 3 × 7 = 46 mm. Check: Measure the fourth line from the top edge and compare with 46 mm.

Exercise 3 answer: 5 mm. Reasoning: The midline is half the line spacing above the baseline: 10 ÷ 2 = 5 mm. Check: Measure from baseline to midline on a ruled line and confirm 5 mm.

Exercise 4 answer: 12 numbers; the first number sits in the pleading margin aligned with the first ruled line. Reasoning: One number per ruled line gives 12 numbers. Alignment means the number and line share the same vertical position. Check: Count the numbers and measure the first number against the first ruled line position.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Outer and inner vertical rules are present and the pleading margin width is recorded in millimetres.
- [ ] Right vertical rule closes the writing area.
- [ ] Line spacing is consistent and verified by arithmetic on at least three lines.
- [ ] Each line number sits in the pleading margin and aligns with its ruled line.
- [ ] Header field contains title, date, and page areas.
- [ ] X-height is measured from baseline to midline and recorded.
- [ ] Valid alternatives are accepted when baseline and midline references remain consistent.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?