SIMILARITY...

Trigonometry

What do I need to be able to do?

By the end of this unit you should be able to:

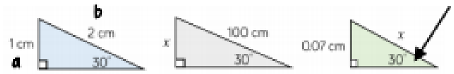
- Work fluently with hypotenuse, opposite and adjacent sides
- Use the tan, sine and cosine ratio to find missing side lengths
- Use the tan, sine and cosine ratio to find missing angles
- Calculate sides using Pythagoras' Theorem

Keywords

Enlarge: to make a shape bigger (or smaller) by a given multiplier (scale factor)
Scale Factor: the multiplier of enlargement
Constant: a value that remains the same
Cosine ratio: the ratio of the length of the adjacent side to that of the hypotenuse. The sine of the complement.
Sine ratio: the ratio of the length of the opposite side to that of the hypotenuse.
Tangent ratio: the ratio of the length of the opposite side to that of the adjacent side.
Inverse: function that has the opposite effect.
Hypotenuse: longest side of a right-angled triangle. It is the side opposite the right-angle.

Ratio in right-angled triangles

When the angle is the same the ratio of sides a and b will also remain the same



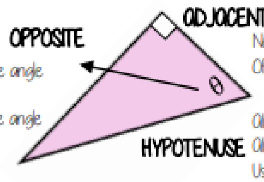
a : b
1 : 2
$\frac{a}{b} = \frac{1}{2}$

a : b
x : 100
50 : 100

a : b
0.07 : x
0.07 : 0.14

Hypotenuse, adjacent and opposite

ONLY right-angled triangles are labelled in this way



OPPOSITE: Always opposite an acute angle. Useful to label second. Position depend upon the angle in use for the question

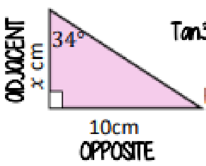
ADJACENT: Next to the angle in question. Often labelled last

HYPOTENUSE: Always the longest side. Always opposite the right angle. Useful to label this first

Tangent ratio: side lengths

$\text{Tan}\theta = \frac{\text{opposite side}}{\text{adjacent side}}$

Substitute the values into the tangent formula



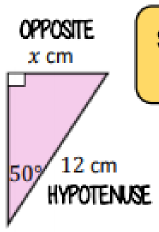
$\text{Tan}34 = \frac{10}{x}$

Equations might need rearranging to solve

$x \times \text{Tan}34 = 10$

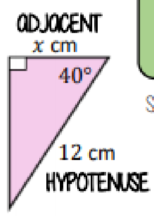
$x = \frac{10}{\text{Tan}34} = 14.8\text{cm}$

Sin and Cos ratio: side lengths



$\text{Sin}\theta = \frac{\text{opposite side}}{\text{hypotenuse side}}$

NOTE
The Sin(x) ratio is the same as the Cos(90-x) ratio

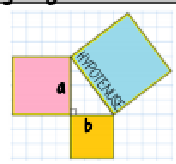


$\text{Cos}\theta = \frac{\text{adjacent side}}{\text{hypotenuse side}}$

Substitute the values into the ratio formula

Equations might need rearranging to solve

Pythagoras theorem (R)



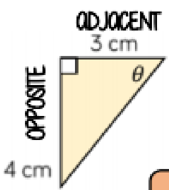
$\text{Hypotenuse}^2 = a^2 + b^2$

This is commutative – the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the squares of the two shorter sides

Places to look out for Pythagoras
- Perpendicular heights in isosceles triangles
- Diagonals on right angled shapes
- Distance between coordinates
- Any length made from a right angles

Sin, Cos, Tan: Angles

Inverse trigonometric functions



Label your triangle and choose your trigonometric ratio

Substitute values into the ratio formula

$\text{Tan}\theta = \frac{3}{4}$

$\theta = \text{Tan}^{-1}\frac{3}{4}$

$\theta = 36.9°$

$\theta = \text{Tan}^{-1}\frac{\text{opposite side}}{\text{adjacent side}}$

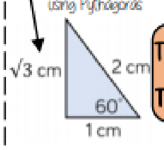
$\theta = \text{Sin}^{-1}\frac{\text{opposite side}}{\text{hypotenuse side}}$

$\theta = \text{Cos}^{-1}\frac{\text{adjacent side}}{\text{hypotenuse side}}$

Key angles

This side could be calculated using Pythagoras

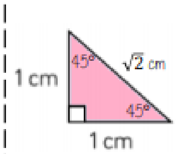
Because trig ratios remain the same for similar shapes you can generalise from the following statements



$\text{Tan}30 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$
$\text{Tan}60 = \sqrt{3}$

$\text{Cos}30 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$
$\text{Cos}60 = \frac{1}{2}$

$\text{Sin}30 = \frac{1}{2}$
$\text{Sin}60 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$



$\text{Tan}45 = 1$

$\text{Cos}45 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

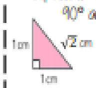
$\text{Sin}45 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

Key angles 0° and 90°

$\text{Tan}0 = 0$

~~Tan90~~

This value cannot be defined – it is impossible as you cannot have two 90° angles in a triangle



$\text{Sin}0 = 0$

$\text{Sin}90 = 1$

$\text{Cos}0 = 1$

$\text{Cos}90 = 0$