

Name Student
Adv Geo - 8

Special Right Triangles (9.7)

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Objectives

After studying this section, you will be able to

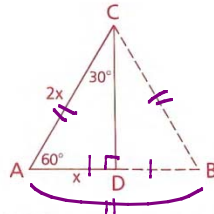
- Identify the ratio of side lengths in a 30°-60°-90° triangle
- Identify the ratio of side lengths in a 45°-45°-90° triangle

Theorem 72 In a triangle whose angles have the measures 30, 60, and 90, the lengths of the sides opposite these angles can be represented by x , $x\sqrt{3}$, and $2x$ respectively. (30°-60°-90°-Triangle Theorem)

Given: $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral.

\overline{CD} bisects $\angle ACB$.

Prove: $AD:DC:AC = x:x\sqrt{3}:2x$



Proof: Since $\triangle ABC$ is equilateral, $\angle ACD = 30^\circ$, $\angle A = 60^\circ$, $\angle ADC = 90^\circ$, and $AD = \frac{1}{2}(AC)$.

By the Pythagorean Theorem, in $\triangle ADC$,

$$x^2 + (DC)^2 = (2x)^2$$

$$x^2 + DC^2 = 4x^2$$

$$-x^2 \quad -x^2$$

$$\sqrt{DC^2} = \sqrt{3x^2}$$

$$DC = \sqrt{3} \cdot x \text{ or } x\sqrt{3}$$

The smallest side is ALWAYS opposite the smallest angle.

The largest side is ALWAYS opposite the largest angle.

work through the rest now.

$$AD:DC:AC =$$

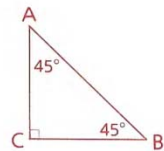
$$\begin{matrix} 30^\circ & 60^\circ & 90^\circ \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ x & x\sqrt{3} & 2x \end{matrix}$$

Theorem 73 In a triangle whose angles have the measures 45, 45, and 90, the lengths of the sides opposite these angles can be represented by x , x , and $x\sqrt{2}$, respectively. (45°-45°-90°-Triangle Theorem)

Given: $\triangle ACB$, with $\angle A = 45^\circ$ and $\angle B = 45^\circ$.

Prove: $AC:CB:AB = x:x:x\sqrt{2}$

The proof of this theorem is left to you.



$$x^2 + x^2 = \text{hyp}^2$$

$$\sqrt{2x^2} = \sqrt{\text{hyp}^2}$$

$$\sqrt{2} \cdot x \text{ or } x\sqrt{2} = \text{hyp}$$

45	45	90
x	x	$x\sqrt{2}$

You will see 30°-60°-90° and 45°-45°-90° triangles frequently in this book and in other mathematics courses. Their ratios are worth memorizing now.

Six Common Families of Right Triangles

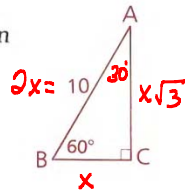
* 30°-60°-90° $\Leftrightarrow (x, x\sqrt{3}, 2x)$	(5, 12, 13)
* 45°-45°-90° $\Leftrightarrow (x, x, x\sqrt{2})$	(7, 24, 25)
(3, 4, 5)	(8, 15, 17)

*Essential for trig!

Class Examples

Problem 1

Type: Hypotenuse ($2x$) known
Find BC and AC.

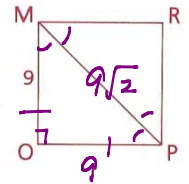


30	60	90
x	$x\sqrt{3}$	$2x$
5	$5\sqrt{3}$	10
BC	AC	AB

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } 2x &= 10 \\ x &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 3

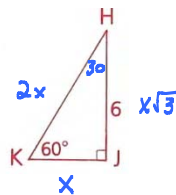
Type: Leg (x) known
MOPR is a square.
Find MP.



$$\begin{aligned} 45 &- 45 &- 90 \\ x & & x & & x\sqrt{2} \\ 9 & & 9 & & 9\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2

Type: Longer leg ($x\sqrt{3}$) known
Find JK and HK.



30	60	90
x	$x\sqrt{3}$	$2x$
$2\sqrt{3}$	6	$4\sqrt{3}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } x\sqrt{3} &= 6 & \xrightarrow{\text{mult}} & \sqrt{3} \cdot x\sqrt{3} = 6\sqrt{3} \\ \text{divide } \downarrow & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} & & \frac{3x}{3} = \frac{6\sqrt{3}}{3} \\ x &= \frac{6\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} & & x = 2\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

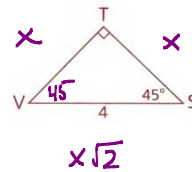
$$x = \frac{6\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$x = \frac{6}{3}\sqrt{3}$$

$$x = 2\sqrt{3}$$

Problem 4

Type: Hypotenuse ($x\sqrt{2}$) known
Find ST and TV.



If

$$\frac{x\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$x = \frac{4}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}}$$

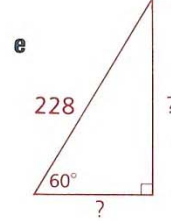
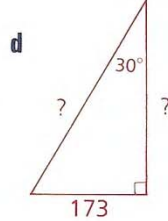
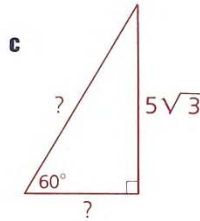
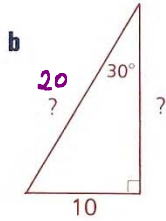
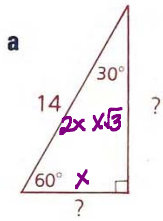
$$x = \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$x = 2\sqrt{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ST &= 2\sqrt{2} \\ TV &= 2\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

Homework

1 Find the two missing sides in each 30°-60°-90° triangle. Try to do the calculations in your head.



1a $30, 60, 90 \Rightarrow \boxed{7, 7\sqrt{3}, 14}$

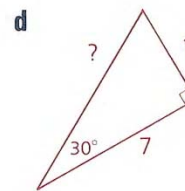
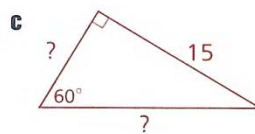
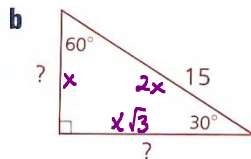
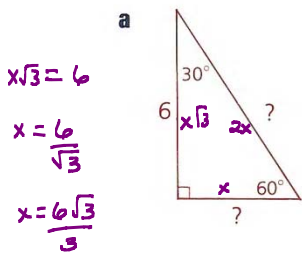
1d _____

1b $10, \boxed{10\sqrt{3}, 20}$

1e _____

1c $\boxed{5}, \boxed{5\sqrt{3}}, \boxed{10}$

2 Find the two missing sides of each triangle. (Hint: These are a bit harder, and you may want to put x , $x\sqrt{3}$, and $2x$ on the proper sides as shown in the sample problems.)



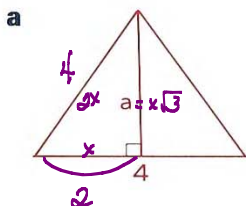
2a $\boxed{2\sqrt{3}}, 6, \boxed{4\sqrt{3}}$

2c _____

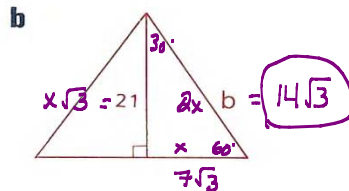
2b $\boxed{\frac{15}{2}}, \boxed{\frac{15\sqrt{3}}{2}}, 15$

2d _____

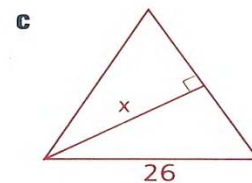
3 Solve for the variable in each of these equilateral triangles.



3a $a = 2\sqrt{3}$

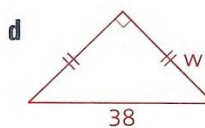
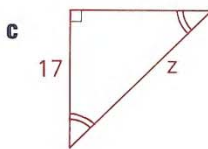
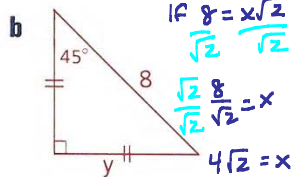
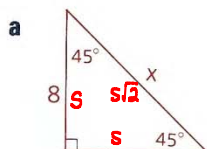


3b $x\sqrt{3} = 21$
 $\frac{x}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{21}{\sqrt{3}}$
 $x = \frac{21}{\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}}$
 $x = \frac{21\sqrt{3}}{3}$
 $x = 7\sqrt{3}$



3c _____

4 Solve for the variable in each of these 45°-45°-90° triangles.



4a

45	45	90
x	x	x√2
4√2	4√2	8

4c _____

4b

45	45	90
x	x	x√2
4√2	4√2	8

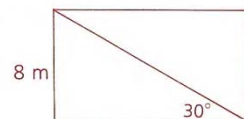
4d _____

5 The perimeter of a square is 44. Find the length of a diagonal.



45-45-90
 x x x√2
 " " 11√2

6 Find the length of the diagonal of the rectangle.

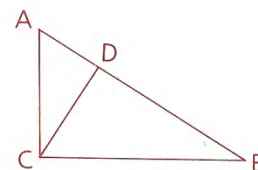


7 Find the altitude of an equilateral triangle if a side is 6 mm long.



30 60 90
 x x√3 2x
 3 3√3 6

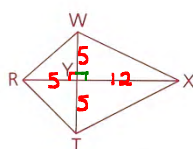
8 Given: $\overline{AC} \perp \overline{BC}$, $\overline{CD} \perp \overline{AB}$,
 $\angle B = 30^\circ$, $BC = 8\sqrt{3}$
 Find: CD



9 Given: TRWX is a kite ($\overline{TR} \cong \overline{WR}$ and $\overline{TX} \cong \overline{XW}$).

RY = 5, TW = 10, YX = 12

Find: a TR $\rightarrow 45-45-90 \rightarrow 5\sqrt{2}$
 b WX $\rightarrow 13$



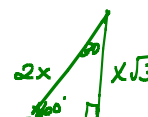
45 45 90
 x x x√2
 5 5 5√2

TEST! ALSO, TRIG

10 a Find the ratio of the longer leg to the hypotenuse in a 30°-60°-90° triangle.

long leg / hyp = $\frac{x\sqrt{3}}{2x} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

30-60-90
 x x√3 2x



10

b Find the ratio of one of the legs to the hypotenuse in a 45°-45°-90° triangle.

one leg / hyp = $\frac{x}{x\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$

45 45 90
 x x x√2

$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$

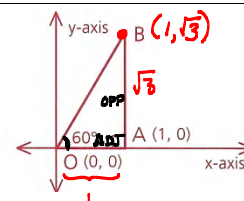
12 a Find the coordinates of B.

b Find the slope of \overrightarrow{OB} .

c Find $\frac{AB}{OA}$. (In a trigonometry class, this ratio is called the tangent of angle BOA.)

b. Slope OB = $\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{\sqrt{3}-0}{1-0} = \sqrt{3}$

c. $\frac{AB}{OA} = \frac{\text{OPP. LEG}}{\text{ADJ. LEG}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{1} = \sqrt{3}$



$\tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}$