

7.5 Applying the Pythagorean Theorem

Learning Targets

- Understand the Converse of the Pythagorean Theorem
- Identify Right Triangles (TEST to Check!)
- Understand the Distance Formula
- Find the Distance Between Two Points
- Solve Real-Life Questions



The Pythagorean Theorem

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

For any **RIGHT Triangle**, the sum of the squares of the legs is equal to the square of the hypotenuse.

(IF you have a right triangle,
you can use the pythagorean theorem)

Converse of the Pythagorean Theorem

If the equation $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ is true for the side lengths of a triangle, then the triangle is a **RIGHT Triangle**.



Not a Right Triangle

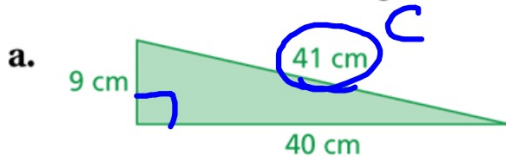
?

$$24^2 + 36^2 \stackrel{?}{=} 42^2$$
$$576 + 1296 = 1764$$
$$1872 \neq 1764$$

(IF the pythagorean theorem works,
then it must be a right triangle)

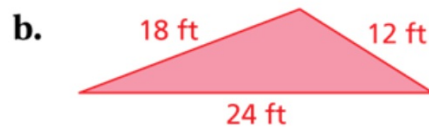
Identify a Right Triangle

Tell whether each triangle is a right triangle.



$$9^2 + 40^2 = 41^2$$
$$81 + 1600 = 1681$$
$$1681 = 1681$$

Yes! ✓



$$18^2 + 12^2 = 24^2$$
$$324 + 144 = 576$$
$$468 \neq 576$$

No

Tell whether a triangle with the given side lengths is a right triangle.

$$\sqrt{19}, \quad \overset{c}{\textcircled{6}}, \quad \sqrt{17},$$

$\sqrt{16} \quad \sqrt{25} \quad \sqrt{16} \quad \sqrt{25}$
4 5 4 5

Which lengths are the legs?
Which length is the hypotenuse?

Yes

$$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$
$$(\sqrt{19})^2 + (\sqrt{17})^2 = 6^2$$
$$19 + 17 = 36$$
$$36 = 36 \checkmark$$

The Distance Formula

The distance d between any two points

(x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) is found using the formula

$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

Find the Distance Between Two Points

Find the distance between $(1, 5)$ and $(-4, -2)$.

x_1, y_1 x_2, y_2

$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

Write the distance formula.

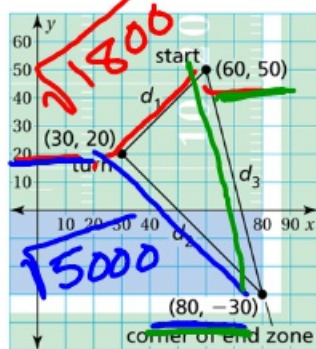
$$d = \sqrt{(-4 - 1)^2 + (-2 - 5)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{(-5)^2 + (-7)^2}$$

$$d = \sqrt{25 + 49} = \sqrt{74}$$

Real-Life Application

TEST QUESTION!



You design a football play in which a player runs down the field, makes a 90° turn, and runs to the corner of the end zone. Your friend runs the play as shown. Did your friend make a 90° turn? Each unit of the grid represents 10 feet.

Use the distance formula to find the lengths of the three sides.

$$d_1 = \sqrt{(60-30)^2 + (50-20)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{30^2 + 30^2} = \sqrt{900 + 900} = \sqrt{1800}$$

Use the converse of the Pythagorean Theorem to determine if the side lengths form a right triangle.

$$d_2 = \sqrt{(80-30)^2 + (-30-20)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(50)^2 + (-50)^2} = \sqrt{2500 + 2500}$$

$$= \sqrt{5000}$$

$$d_3 = \sqrt{(60-80)^2 + (50-(-30))^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(-20)^2 + (80)^2} = \sqrt{400 + 6400}$$

$$= \sqrt{6800}$$

$$\sqrt{1800}$$

$$\sqrt{5000}$$

$$\sqrt{6800}$$

$$(\sqrt{1800})^2 + (\sqrt{5000})^2 = (\sqrt{6800})^2$$

$$1800 + 5000 = 6800$$

$$6800 = 6800 \checkmark$$

Yes

Homework

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