Math Antics Worksheets
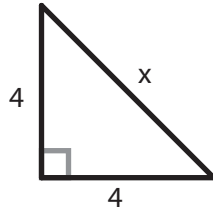
Finding an Unknown Side - Set 1

Instructions: For each right triangle, use the Pythagorean Theorem to find the length of the unknown side 'x'. (You can use a calcuator for the arithmetic if you want to.)
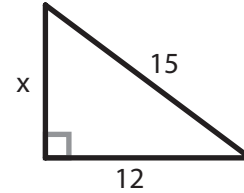
1

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

$16 + 16 = x^2$

$32 = x^2$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{32}$

$x = \sqrt{32}$

or $4\sqrt{2}$

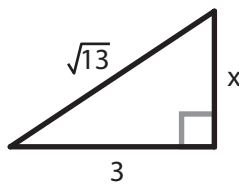or $5.656...$

2

$x^2 + 12^2 = 15^2$

$x^2 + 144 = 225$

$\quad -144 \quad -144$

$x^2 = 81$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{81}$

$x = 9$

3

$x^2 + 3^2 = \sqrt{13}^2$

$x^2 + 9 = 13$

$\quad -9 \quad -9$

$x^2 = 4$

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

$x = 2$

4
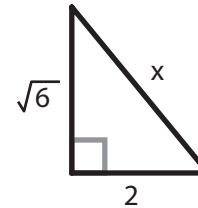
$\sqrt{6}^2 + 2^2 = x^2$

$6 + 4 = x^2$

$10 = x^2$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{10}$

$x = \sqrt{10}$

or $3.162...$
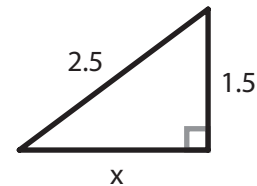
5

$x^2 + 3^2 = 4^2$

$x^2 + 9 = 16$

$\quad -9 \quad -9$
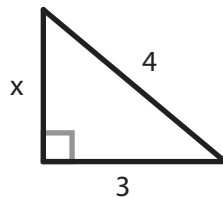
$x^2 = 7$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{7}$

$x = \sqrt{7}$

or $2.645...$

6

$x^2 + 1.5^2 = 2.5^2$

$x^2 + 2.25 = 6.25$

$\quad -2.25 \quad -2.25$

$x^2 = 4$

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

$x = 2$

▶ The Pythagorean Theorem • mathantics.com

Name: _____

Date: _____
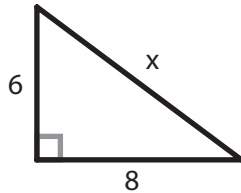
Finding an Unknown Side - Set 2

Instructions: For each right triangle, use the Pythagorean Theorem to find the length of the unknown side 'x'. (You can use a calcuator for the arithmetic if you want to.)
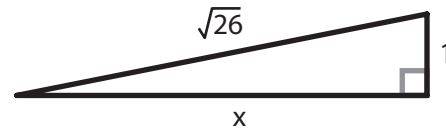
1

$6^2 + 8^2 = x^2$

$36 + 64 = x^2$

$100 = x^2$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{100}$

$x = 10$

2

$x^2 + 1^2 = \sqrt{26}^2$

$x^2 + 1 = 26$
$ -1 \quad -1$

$x^2 = 25$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{25}$

$x = 5$

3

$\sqrt{6}^2 + 3^2 = x^2$

$6 + 9 = x^2$

$15 = x^2$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{15}$

$x = \sqrt{15}$

or 3.872...

4
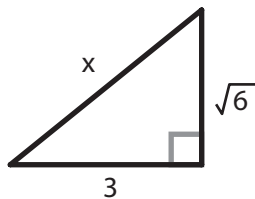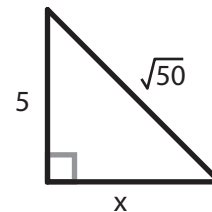
$5^2 + x^2 = \sqrt{50}^2$

$25 + x^2 = 50$
$-25 -25$

$x^2 = 25$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{25}$

$x = 5$

5
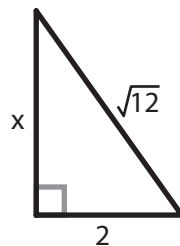
$x^2 + 2^2 = \sqrt{12}^2$

$x^2 + 4 = 12$
$ -4 \quad -4$

$x^2 = 8$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{8}$

$x = \sqrt{8}$

or $2\sqrt{2}$

or 2.828...

6
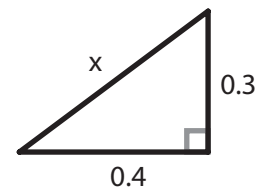
$0.3^2 + 0.4^2 = x^2$

$0.09 + 0.16 = x^2$

$0.25 = x^2$

$\sqrt{x^2} = \sqrt{0.25}$

$x = 0.5$

or $\sqrt{0.25}$

Name: _____

Date: _____
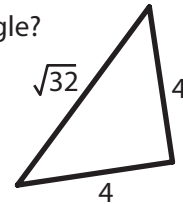
Is it a *right* triangle?

Instructions: Use the Pythagorean Theorem to test the triangles shown or described in each problem below.

1 If a triangle has sides that are 12, 10 and 6 meters long, is it a right triangle?

NOTE: when plugging the three sides into the test equation, always make the longest side 'c'.

Test: $6^2 + 10^2 \overset{?}{=} 12^2$

$36 + 100 \overset{?}{=} 144$

$136 \neq 144$ (Nope!)

2 Is this a right triangle?

Test:
$4^2 + 4^2 \overset{?}{=} \sqrt{32}^2$

$16 + 16 \overset{?}{=} 32$

$32 = 32$ (Yes)

3 Is a triangle with side lengths of 4, 5, and 6 inches a right triangle?

Test: $4^2 + 5^2 \overset{?}{=} 6^2$

$16 + 25 \overset{?}{=} 36$

$41 \neq 36$ (No)

4 A triangle has side lengths that are 7 cm, 7 cm and 11cm. Is it a right triangle ?

Test: $7^2 + 7^2 \overset{?}{=} 11^2$

$49 + 49 \overset{?}{=} 121$

$98 \neq 121$ (No)

5 Is this a right triangle?
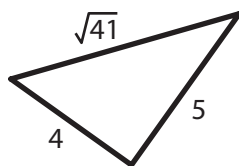
Test:

$4^2 + 5^2 \overset{?}{=} \sqrt{41}^2$

$16 + 25 \overset{?}{=} 41$

$41 = 41$ (Yes)

6 Is this a right triangle?
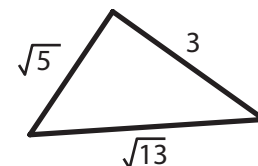
Test:

$3^2 + \sqrt{5}^2 \overset{?}{=} \sqrt{13}^2$

$9 + 5 \overset{?}{=} 13$

$14 \neq 13$ (No)

▶ The Pythagorean Theorem • mathantics.com