

Geometry – Pythagoras' theorem – Pythagoras' theorem

Recap

- The three sides of potential triangles are shown below. Determine whether they do, indeed, form a triangle.

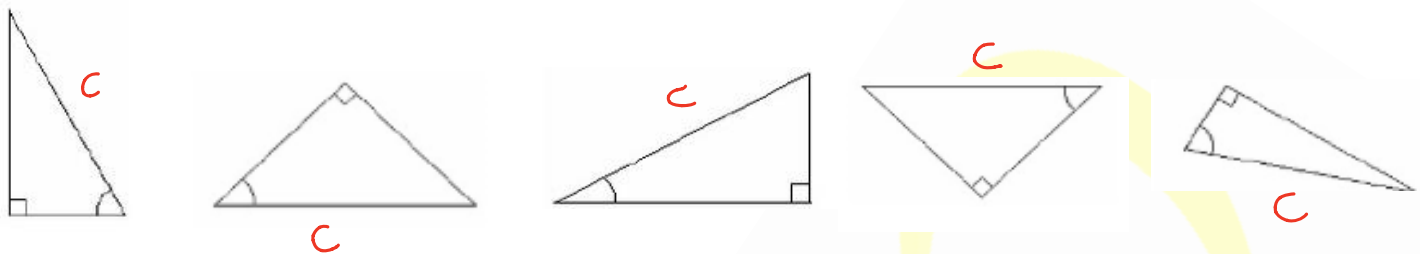
Side One (cm)	Side Two (cm)	Side Three (cm)	✓ or X
6	8	20	✗
5	4	7	✓
18	6	11	✗
28	29	50	✓

Core

- Define Pythagoras' theorem

A triangle is right-angled if and only if $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ where c is the hypotenuse.

- One each of the following triangles, label the hypotenuse as c :



- Match the equation to the description:

$a^2 + b^2 = c^2$	acute angle
$a^2 + b^2 < c^2$	obtuse angle
$a^2 + b^2 > c^2$	right angle

(Note: The image shows a red line connecting $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ to 'right angle', a green line connecting $a^2 + b^2 < c^2$ to 'obtuse angle', and a blue line connecting $a^2 + b^2 > c^2$ to 'acute angle').

4. A triangle has sides of length 5cm, 6cm and 7cm. Determine, with full working, whether the largest angle is acute, obtuse or 90° .

$$a^2 + b^2 = 5^2 + 6^2 = 61$$

$$c^2 = 7^2 = 49$$

As $a^2 + b^2 > c^2$ the largest angle is acute.

5. A triangle has sides of length 4cm, 8cm and 11cm. Determine, with full working, whether the largest angle is acute, obtuse or 90° .

$$a^2 + b^2 = 4^2 + 8^2 = 80$$

$$c^2 = 11^2 = 121$$

As $a^2 + b^2 < c^2$ the largest angle is obtuse.

6. A triangle has sides of length 5cm, 12cm and 13cm. Determine, with full working, whether the largest angle is acute, obtuse or 90° .

$$a^2 + b^2 = 5^2 + 12^2 = 169$$

$$c^2 = 13^2 = 169$$

As $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ the largest angle is 90° .

7. Prove that a triangle with sides of length 9cm, 12cm and 15cm is right-angled.

$$a^2 + b^2 = 9^2 + 12^2 = 225$$

$$c^2 = 15^2 = 225$$

As $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ the largest angle is 90° .