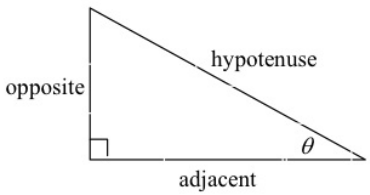
Trig Cheat Sheet

Definition of the Trig Functions

Right triangle definition

For this definition we assume that $0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$ or $0° < \theta < 90°$.



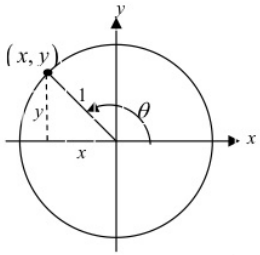
$$\sin\theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}} \qquad \csc\theta = \frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{opposite}}$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}} \qquad \sec\theta = \frac{\text{hypotenuse}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}} \qquad \cot\theta = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{opposite}}$$

Unit circle definition

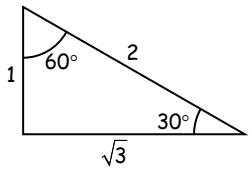
For this definition θ is any angle.



$$\sin\theta = \frac{y}{1} = y \qquad \csc\theta = \frac{1}{y}$$

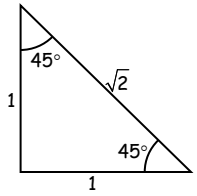
$$\cos\theta = \frac{x}{1} = x \qquad \sec\theta = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\tan\theta = \frac{y}{x} \qquad \cot\theta = \frac{x}{y}$$

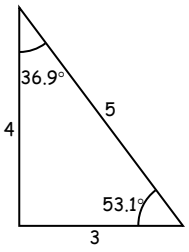


$$\text{Sin}(30°) = \frac{1}{2} \qquad \text{Cos}(30°) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \qquad \text{Tan}(30°) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\text{Sin}(60°) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \qquad \text{Cos}(60°) = \frac{1}{2} \qquad \text{Tan}(60°) = \sqrt{3}$$



$$\text{Sin}(45°) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \qquad \text{Cos}(45°) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \qquad \text{Tan}(45°) = 1$$



Carpenter's 3-4-5 triangle for confirming a right angle. Measure & mark 4 and 3 feet (meters) out from a corner. Measure between the marks ... when it's 5, you have a right angle.

Formulas and Identities

Tangent and Cotangent Identities

$$\tan\theta = \frac{\sin\theta}{\cos\theta} \qquad \cot\theta = \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta}$$

Reciprocal Identities

$$\csc\theta = \frac{1}{\sin\theta} \qquad \sin\theta = \frac{1}{\csc\theta}$$

$$\sec\theta = \frac{1}{\cos\theta} \qquad \cos\theta = \frac{1}{\sec\theta}$$

$$\cot\theta = \frac{1}{\tan\theta} \qquad \tan\theta = \frac{1}{\cot\theta}$$

Pythagorean Identities

$$\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta = 1$$

$$\tan^2\theta + 1 = \sec^2\theta$$

$$1 + \cot^2\theta = \csc^2\theta$$

Even/Odd Formulas

$$\sin(-\theta) = -\sin\theta \qquad \csc(-\theta) = -\csc\theta$$

$$\cos(-\theta) = \cos\theta \qquad \sec(-\theta) = \sec\theta$$

$$\tan(-\theta) = -\tan\theta \qquad \cot(-\theta) = -\cot\theta$$

Periodic Formulas

If n is an integer.

$$\sin(\theta + 2\pi n) = \sin\theta \qquad \csc(\theta + 2\pi n) = \csc\theta$$

$$\cos(\theta + 2\pi n) = \cos\theta \qquad \sec(\theta + 2\pi n) = \sec\theta$$

$$\tan(\theta + \pi n) = \tan\theta \qquad \cot(\theta + \pi n) = \cot\theta$$

Double Angle Formulas

$$\sin(2\theta) = 2\sin\theta\cos\theta$$

$$\cos(2\theta) = \cos^2\theta - \sin^2\theta = 2\cos^2\theta - 1 = 1 - 2\sin^2\theta$$

$$\tan(2\theta) = \frac{2\tan\theta}{1 - \tan^2\theta}$$

Degrees to Radians Formulas

If x is an angle in degrees and t is an angle in radians then

$$\frac{\pi}{180} = \frac{t}{x} \quad \Rightarrow \quad t = \frac{\pi x}{180} \quad \text{and} \quad x = \frac{180t}{\pi}$$

Half Angle Formulas

$$\sin^2\theta = \frac{1}{2}\left(1 - \cos(2\theta)\right)$$

$$\cos^2\theta = \frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \cos(2\theta)\right)$$

$$\tan^2\theta = \frac{1 - \cos(2\theta)}{1 + \cos(2\theta)}$$

Sum and Difference Formulas

$$\sin(\alpha \pm \beta) = \sin\alpha\cos\beta \pm \cos\alpha\sin\beta$$

$$\cos(\alpha \pm \beta) = \cos\alpha\cos\beta \mp \sin\alpha\sin\beta$$

$$\tan(\alpha \pm \beta) = \frac{\tan\alpha \pm \tan\beta}{1 \mp \tan\alpha\tan\beta}$$

Product to Sum Formulas

$$\sin\alpha\sin\beta = \frac{1}{2}\left[\cos(\alpha - \beta) - \cos(\alpha + \beta)\right]$$

$$\cos\alpha\cos\beta = \frac{1}{2}\left[\cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cos(\alpha + \beta)\right]$$

$$\sin\alpha\cos\beta = \frac{1}{2}\left[\sin(\alpha + \beta) + \sin(\alpha - \beta)\right]$$

$$\cos\alpha\sin\beta = \frac{1}{2}\left[\sin(\alpha + \beta) - \sin(\alpha - \beta)\right]$$

Sum to Product Formulas

$$\sin\alpha + \sin\beta = 2\sin\left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}\right)$$

$$\sin\alpha - \sin\beta = 2\cos\left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}\right)\sin\left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}\right)$$

$$\cos\alpha + \cos\beta = 2\cos\left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}\right)\cos\left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}\right)$$

$$\cos\alpha - \cos\beta = -2\sin\left(\frac{\alpha + \beta}{2}\right)\sin\left(\frac{\alpha - \beta}{2}\right)$$

Cofunction Formulas

$$\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \cos\theta \qquad \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \sin\theta$$

$$\csc\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \sec\theta \qquad \sec\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \csc\theta$$

$$\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \cot\theta \qquad \cot\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta\right) = \tan\theta$$