



# UNIT 3 LESSON 1

PRECALCULUS B



## LESSON 1:

- **Trigonometric Identities**
  - Reciprocal
  - Quotient
  - Pythagorean



## What is an Identity in math?



## What is an Identity in math?

**An identity is an equation that is always true, no matter what value you plug in!**

**For example:**

$$a + 0 = a$$

$$(a)(1) = a$$

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

$$\sin(a) = 1/\csc(a)$$

## RECIPROCAL IDENTITIES:

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

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

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

... You already know these, and we've used them multiple times. 😊

## QUOTIENT IDENTITIES:

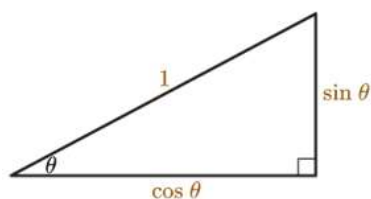
$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} \quad \cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$$

... These come from simplifying the basic ratios ...

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{\left( \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{hypotenuse}} \right)}{\left( \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}} \right)} = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}} = \tan \theta$$

## PYTHAGOREAN IDENTITIES:

- For right triangles in the Unit Circle,
- the hypotenuse is always 1,
  - the side opposite is the sine of the central angle,
  - the side adjacent is the cosine of the central angle.



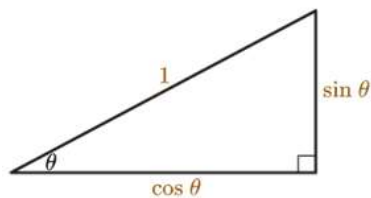
## PYTHAGOREAN IDENTITIES:

So, by the Pythagorean Theorem:

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

Or, more simply:

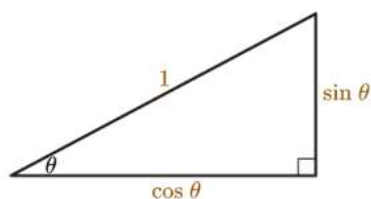
$$\sin^2(\theta) + \cos^2(\theta) = 1$$



## PYTHAGOREAN IDENTITIES:

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We can get two other versions of this identity by dividing every term by either sine or cosine.



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**SIMPLIFY THESE:**

$$\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\sin^2 \theta} = \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta}$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta}$$

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SIMPLIFY THESE:

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$$\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta}$$

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

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

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

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

## PYTHAGOREAN IDENTITIES:

### Pythagorean Identities

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

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

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

## PYTHAGOREAN IDENTITIES:

Sometimes these are more useful when rearranged:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## The Fundamental Trig Identities:

Reciprocal Identities	Quotient Identities	Pythagorean Identities
$\sin \theta = \frac{1}{\csc \theta}$	$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$	$\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$
$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$	$\cot \theta = \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta}$	$1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$
$\cos \theta = \frac{1}{\sec \theta}$		$1 + \cot^2 \theta = \csc^2 \theta$
$\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$		
$\tan \theta = \frac{1}{\cot \theta}$		
$\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$		

We will use these to prove other identities . . .

## How to Verify an Identity:

That is, show the substitutions and/or modifications that will convert the left side to match the right side!!

Verify that  $\cos \theta / \sec \theta = \cos^2 \theta$

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

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

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

**Verified!!**

## You Verify:

$$\sin \theta \cot \theta \sec \theta = 1$$



**You Verify:**

$$\sin\theta \cot\theta \sec\theta = 1$$

$$\sin\theta \cot\theta \sec\theta =$$

$$\sin\theta \cdot \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos\theta} = \quad \text{substitute}$$

**You Verify:**

$$\sin\theta \cot\theta \sec\theta = 1$$


$$\sin\theta \cdot \cot\theta \cdot \sec\theta =$$

$$\sin\theta \cdot \frac{\cos\theta}{\sin\theta} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos\theta} = \quad \text{substitute}$$

$$\frac{\sin\theta \cdot \cos\theta \cdot 1}{1 \cdot \sin\theta \cdot \cos\theta} = \quad \text{multiply}$$

$$1/1 = 1 \quad \text{cancel to reduce the fraction}$$


**Verified!!**



**You Verify:**

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

What identity has something that looks like this and uses these functions??



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**Pythagorean Identity:**

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

We can substitute this for the  $\csc^2 \theta$

## You Verify:

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

$$\cot^2 \theta - \csc^2 \theta$$

$$= \cot^2 \theta - (1 + \cot^2 \theta)$$

$$= \cot^2 \theta - 1 - \cot^2 \theta$$

$$= (\cot^2 \theta - \cot^2 \theta) - 1$$

$$= 0 - 1$$

$$= -1$$

**Verified!!**

## Strategies:

1 – Express everything in terms of sine & cosine

2 – Substitute known formulas or identities . . . rearrange these as needed to match.

3 – Try factoring or distributing

4 – Use a common denominator to do any fraction addition or subtraction

5 – When a denominator has two terms, try multiplying top & bottom by the conjugate of the denominator . . . Remember, the conjugate is the same two terms, but reverse the sign in the middle


. . . See an example of each on page 5 of lesson 1

**Strategies:**

YES, you may need to try more than one strategy to finally get a way to make it work!!

It is like doing a puzzle or a maze . . .

So, be patient and take your time!!




Working through the steps in the lesson examples will help train your brain to see possibilities for putting together these puzzles!

**Questions??**

Review the **Key Terms and Key Concepts** documents for this unit.

Look up the topic at **khanacademy.org** and **virtualnerd.com**

Come to **Open Office time** to ask me.  
Check your **Planner** for the day & time.



Reserve a time for a call with me at **jpattersonmath.youcanbook.me**

We can use the **LiveLesson whiteboard** to go over problems together!