

# TRIGONOMETRY

## Labelling Sides and Choosing the Correct Ratio

So, we have looked at labelling the sides, let's move on to finding the ratios...

You'll need an acronym to help you: **SOH CAH TOA**.

**S** stands for **sine**, which is abbreviated to **sin**

**C** stands for **cosine**, which is abbreviated to **cos**

**T** stands for **tangent**, which is abbreviated to **tan**

**O** stands for **opposite**

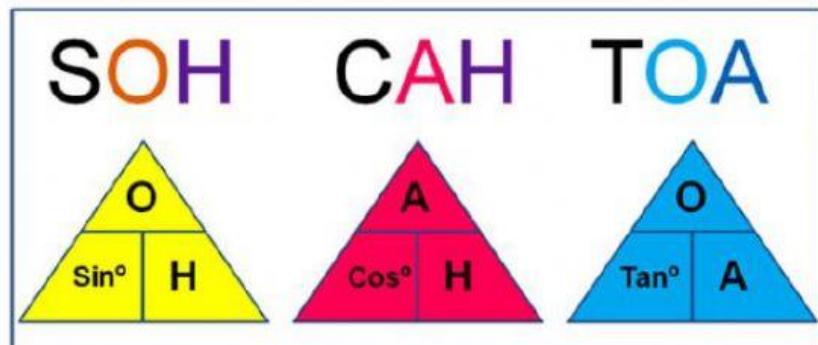
**H** stands for **hypotenuse**

**A** stands for **adjacent**.

We write it like this:

	O		A		O
S	H	C	H	T	A

OR



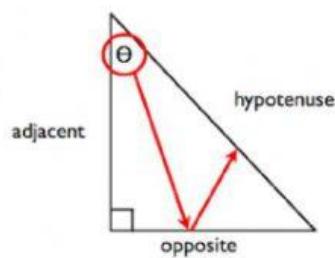
SOHCAHTOA is a nifty way to remember how to find the sine/ cosine/ tangent of an angle in a right triangle.

**Note: ONLY WORKS FOR RIGHT TRIANGLES.**

By using SOHCAHTOA you can find angle measures and side lengths of various right triangles. SOHCAHTOA is important to remember when solving right triangles.

## Sine

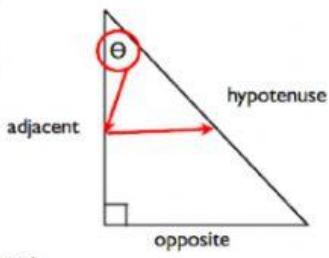
**S** : sine  
**O** : opposite  
**H** : hypotenuse



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

## Cosine

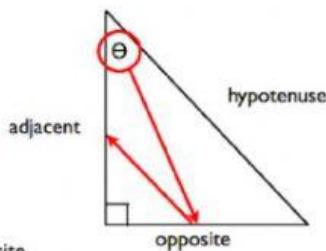
**C** : cosine  
**A** : adjacent  
**H** : hypotenuse



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

## Tangent

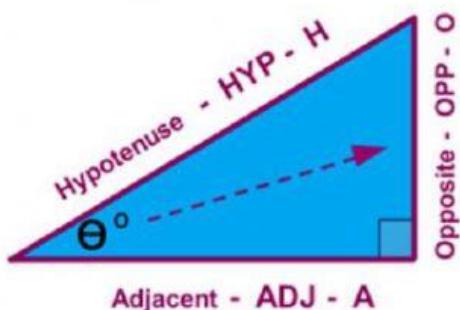
**T** : tangent  
**O** : opposite  
**A** : adjacent



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

To sum up the above:

## Trig Ratios – SOH CAH TOA



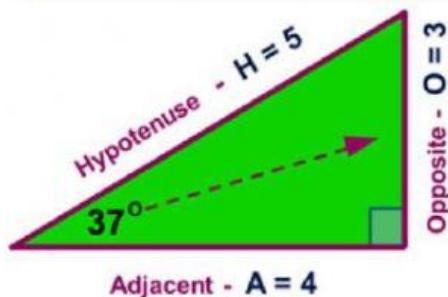
Name	Ratio	Expression
Sine	O / H	$\sin \theta$
Cosine	A / H	$\cos \theta$
Tangent	O / A	$\tan \theta$

We use "SOH-CAH-TOA" to help us remember the Ratios

**SOH** is short for **Sine** = Opposite / Hypotenuse = O / H  
**CAH** is short for **Cosine** = Adjacent / Hypotenuse = A / H  
**TOA** is short for **Tangent** = Opposite / Adjacent = O / A

Let's look at a few examples below:

## Trigonometric Ratios – Example 1



Find the values of the three regular Trig Ratios for the Given Triangle using SOH – CAH – TOA

Use "SOH-CAH-TOA" to get the Trig Ratios for the Triangle

**SOH** is short for  $\sin\theta = O / H \rightarrow \sin 37^\circ = 3/5$  or 0.6 ✓

**CAH** is short for  $\cos\theta = A / H \rightarrow \cos 37^\circ = 4/5$  or 0.8 ✓

**TOA** is short for  $\tan\theta = O / A \rightarrow \tan 37^\circ = 3/4$  or 0.75 ✓

(Online Trig Ratio Calculator) <http://www.mathopenref.com/calculator.html>

### Sine Ratio Values on Calculator

We use the special "Sin" and "Sin<sup>-1</sup>" calculator buttons when solving Sine Triangle Questions.

Warning: Your calculator must be in "Degrees" DEG Mode.

$\sin 60^\circ \rightarrow \text{sin } 60 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 0.8660$  ✓  
 $\sin 45^\circ \rightarrow \text{sin } 45 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 0.7071$  ✓  
 $\sin 30^\circ \rightarrow \text{sin } 30 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 0.5$  ✓

Note that we round off long decimal trig values from the calculator to four decimal places.

### Cosine Ratio Values on Calculator

We use the special "Cos" and "Cos<sup>-1</sup>" calculator buttons when solving Cosine Triangle Questions.

Warning: Your calculator must be in "Degrees" DEG Mode.

$\cos 60^\circ \rightarrow \text{cos } 60 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 0.5$  ✓  
 $\cos 45^\circ \rightarrow \text{cos } 45 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 0.7071$  ✓  
 $\cos 30^\circ \rightarrow \text{cos } 30 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 0.8660$  ✓

Note that we round off long decimal trig values from the calculator to four decimal places.

### Tangent Ratio Values on Calculator

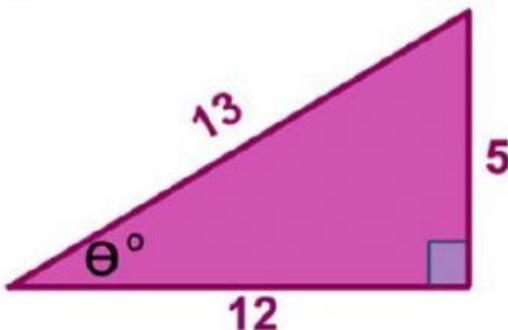
We use the special "Tan" and "Tan<sup>-1</sup>" calculator buttons when solving Tangent Triangle Questions.

Warning: Your calculator must be in "Degrees" DEG Mode.

$\tan 60^\circ \rightarrow \text{tan } 60 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 1.7321$  ✓  
 $\tan 45^\circ \rightarrow \text{tan } 45 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 1$  ✓  
 $\tan 30^\circ \rightarrow \text{tan } 30 \text{ enter} \rightarrow 0.5774$  ✓

Note that we round off long decimal trig values from the calculator to four decimal places.

## Trigonometric Ratios – Example 2



Find the value of  $\tan \Theta$  for the Given Triangle using SOH – CAH - TOA

Use “SOH-CAH-TOA” to get the Trig Ratios for the Triangle

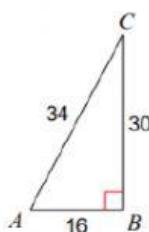
**First Label the Triangle Sides with HYP, OPP, and ADJ**

TOA is short for  $\tan \Theta = \text{O} / \text{A} \rightarrow \tan \Theta^\circ = 5/12$  or 0.4167 ✓

**Your turn** 😊

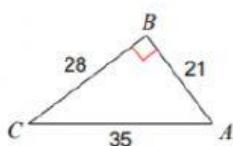
**Find the value of each trigonometric ratio.**

1)  $\tan C$



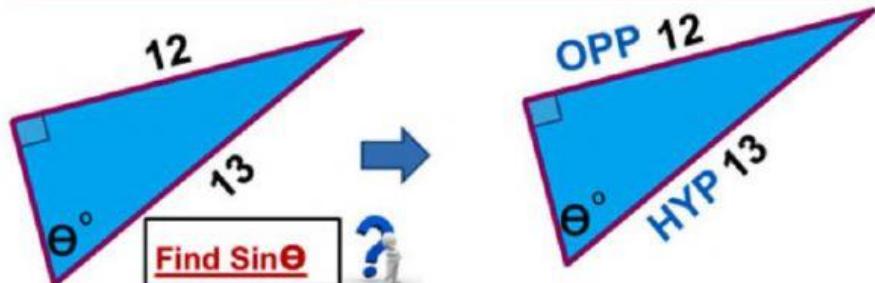
Show your working out here:

2)  $\tan C$



Show your working out here:

## Sine Triangle – EXAMPLE 4



To find sinθ, use  $\sin\theta = \text{OPP} / \text{HYP}$

$$\sin\theta = 12 / 13$$

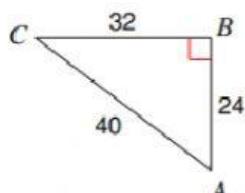
$$\sin\theta = 0.9230769$$

$$\sin\theta = 0.9230 \quad \checkmark$$

Your turn 😊

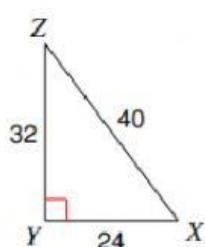
Find the value of each trigonometric ratio.

$\sin A$



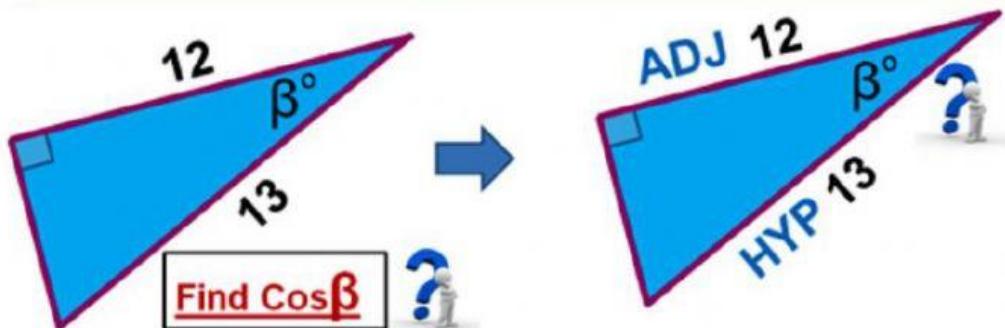
Show your working out here:

$\sin Z$



Show your working out here:

## Cosine Triangle – EXAMPLE 4



To find  $\cos\theta$ , use  $\cos\theta = \text{ADJ} / \text{HYP}$

$$\cos\beta = 12 / 13$$

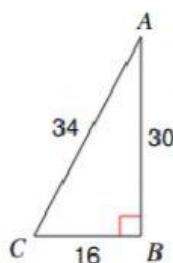
$$\cos\beta = 0.9230769$$

$$\cos\beta = 0.9230 \checkmark$$

Your turn 😊

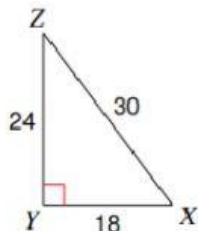
Find the value of each trigonometric ratio.

$\cos C$



Show your working out here:

$\cos Z$



Show your working out here:

**REFLECTION:**

**How well have you learnt today?**

**Give me a rating from 0 to 5: \_\_\_\_\_**

**State 2 things that you have learnt REALLY well today:**

**1- \_\_\_\_\_**

**2- \_\_\_\_\_**