

Finding a side from a triangle

To find a missing side from a right-angled triangle we need to know one angle and one other side.

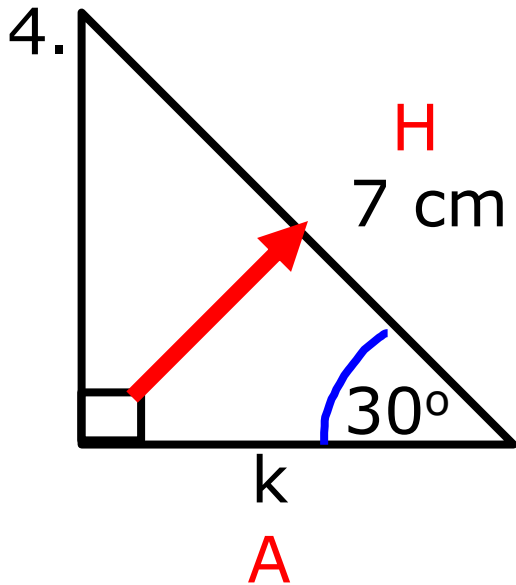
Note: If

$$\cos 45 = \frac{x}{13}$$

To leave x on its own we need to move the $\div 13$.

It becomes a "times" when it moves.

$$\cos 45 \times 13 = x$$



We have been given the adj and hyp so we use COSINE:

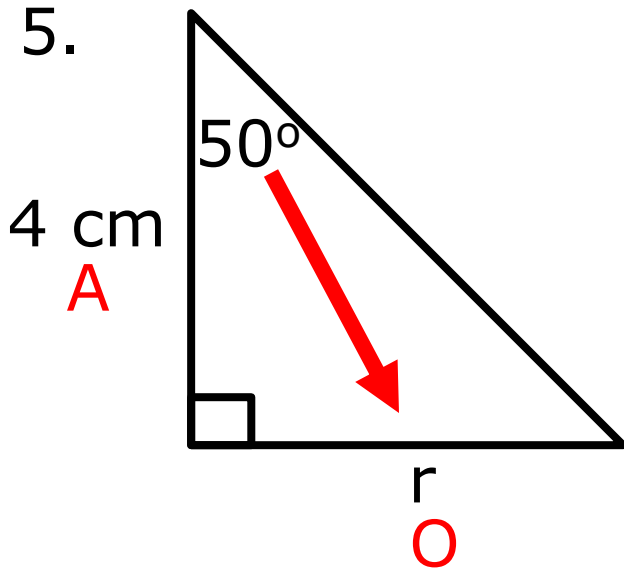
$$\text{Cos } A = \frac{\text{adjacent}}{\text{hypotenuse}}$$

$$\text{Cos } A = \frac{a}{h}$$

$$\text{Cos } 30 = \frac{k}{7}$$

$$\text{Cos } 30 \times 7 = k$$

$$6.1 \text{ cm} = k$$



We have been given the opp and adj so we use TAN:

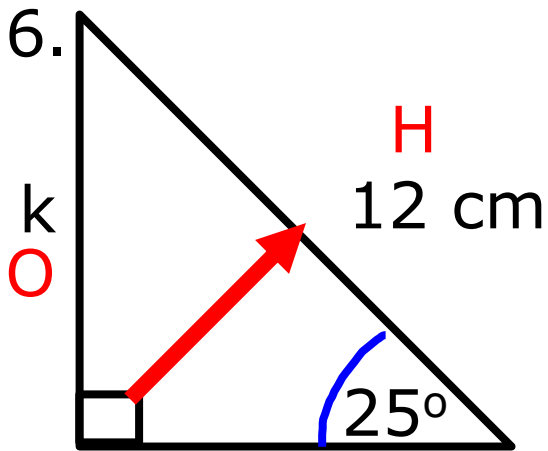
$$\text{Tan } A = \frac{\text{opposite}}{\text{adjacent}}$$

$$\text{Tan } A = \frac{O}{a}$$

$$\text{Tan } 50 = \frac{r}{4}$$

$$\text{Tan } 50 \times 4 = r$$

$$4.8 \text{ cm} = r$$



We have been given the opp and hyp so we use SINE:

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

$$\sin A = \frac{o}{h}$$

$$\sin 25 = \frac{k}{12}$$

$$\sin 25 \times 12 = k$$

$$5.1 \text{ cm} = k$$

Finding a side from a triangle

There are occasions when the unknown letter is on the bottom of the fraction after substituting.

$$\text{Cos}45 = \frac{13}{u}$$

Move the u term to the other side.

It becomes a "times" when it moves.

$$\text{Cos}45 \times u = 13$$

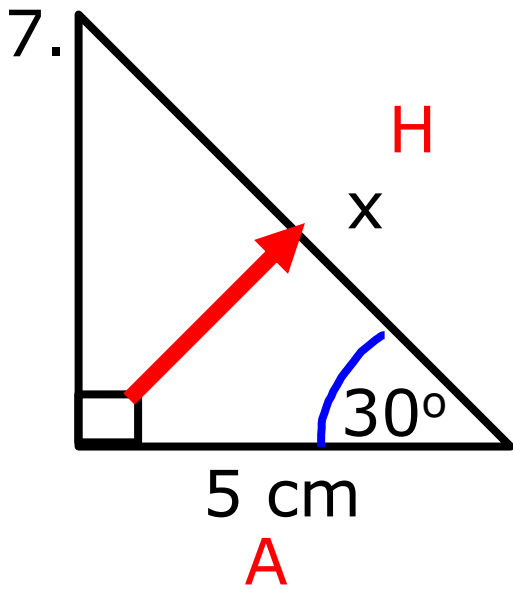
To leave u on its own, move the cos 45 to other side, it becomes a divide.

$$u = \frac{13}{\text{Cos} 45}$$

When the unknown letter is on the bottom of the fraction we can simply swap it with the trig (sin A, cos A, or tan A) value.

$$\text{Cos}45 = \frac{13}{u}$$

$$u = \frac{13}{\text{Cos } 45}$$

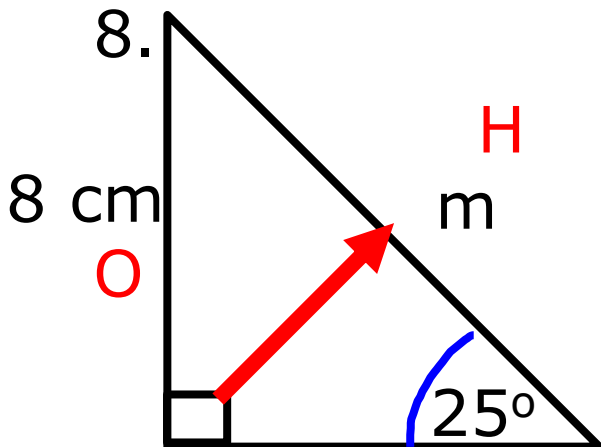


$$\cos A = \frac{a}{h}$$

$$\cos 30 = \frac{5}{x}$$

$$x = \frac{5}{\cos 30}$$

$$x = 5.8 \text{ cm}$$



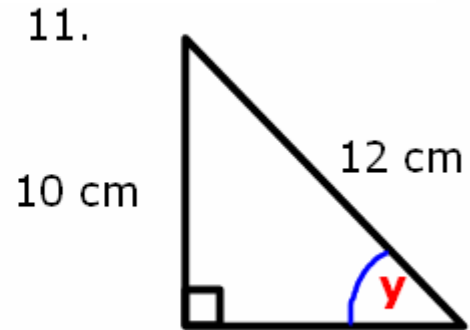
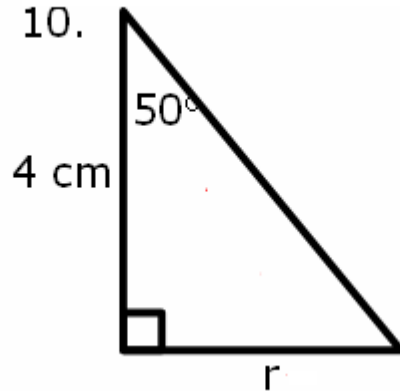
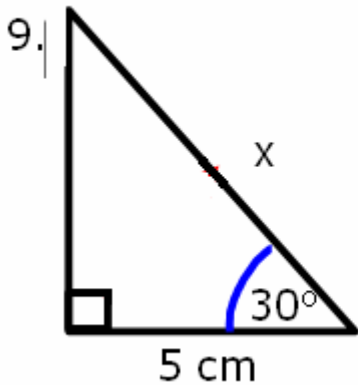
$$\sin A = \frac{o}{h}$$

$$\sin 25 = \frac{8}{m}$$

$$m = \frac{8}{\sin 25}$$

$$m = 18.9 \text{ cm}$$

Your turn (Round answers to the nearest tenth)



$$\sin 30 = 0.5$$

$$\cos 30 = 0.866$$

$$\tan 30 = 0.5774$$

$$\sin 50 = 0.766$$

$$\cos 50 = 0.6428$$

$$\tan 50 = 0.1.1917$$