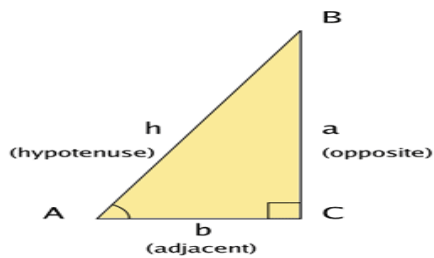


# TRIGONOMETRIC RATIOS OF SOME SPECIFIC ANGLES

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## Introduction to Trig Ratios

The major functions of [trigonometric ratios](#) are sine, cosine, tangent, cosecant, secant and cotangent.



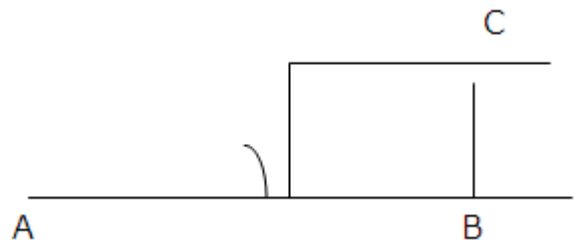
These functions are used to find the relationship between the angle and side of a

[right angled triangle](#).

Some specific angles are:

- $0^\circ$  and  $90^\circ$
- $45^\circ$
- $30^\circ$  and  $60^\circ$

## Trigonometric Ratios of $0^\circ$ and $90^\circ$



In  $\triangle ABC$ , right – angled at B, and  $\angle BAC = ?$

So, from  $\triangle ABC$ , we have

$$\sin ? = BC / AC$$

$$\cos ? = AB / AC$$

$$\tan ? = BC / AB$$

### Case I: $\angle A$ is becoming small

If  $\angle A$  is made smaller and smaller in the  $\triangle ABC$ , till it becomes zero. As  $\angle A$  gets smaller and smaller, the length of the BC decreases. The point C gets closer to point B, and finally when A becomes very close to  $0^\circ$ , AC becomes almost the same as AB.

When  $\angle A$  is very close to  $0^\circ$ , BC gets very close to 0 and so the value of

$\sin A = BC / AC$  is very close to 0.

Also, when A is very close to  $0^\circ$ , AC is same as AB and so the value of  $\cos A = AB/AC$  is very close to 1.

From the above discussion, we have

$$\sin 0^\circ = 0$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} 0^\circ = 1 / \sin 0^\circ = 1/0 = \text{not defined}$$

$$\operatorname{cosec} 0^\circ = ?$$

$$\cos 0^\circ = 1$$

$$\sec 0^\circ = 1 / \cos 0^\circ = 1/1 = 1$$

$$\sec 0^\circ = 1$$

Using  $\sin$  and  $\cos$  values, we can find  $\tan 0^\circ$

$$\tan 0^\circ = \sin 0^\circ / \cos 0^\circ = 0$$

$$\tan 0^\circ = 0$$

Also,  $\cot 0^\circ = 1 / \tan 0^\circ = 1/0 = \text{not defined}$

$$\cot 0^\circ = ?$$

## Case II: $\angle A$ is becoming large

Now, let's see when  $\angle A$  is made larger and larger in  $\triangle ABC$  till it becomes  $90^\circ$ . As  $\angle A$  gets larger and larger,  $\angle C$  gets smaller and smaller. So, the length of the side AB goes on decreasing. The point A gets closer to point B. Finally when  $\angle A$  is very close to  $90^\circ$ ,  $\angle C$  becomes very close to  $0^\circ$  and the side AC almost coincides with side BC.

When  $\angle C$  is very close to  $0^\circ$ , A is very close to  $90^\circ$ , side AC is nearly the same as side BC.

So,  $\sin A$  is very close to 1.

From above discussion we get,

$$\sin 90^\circ = 1$$

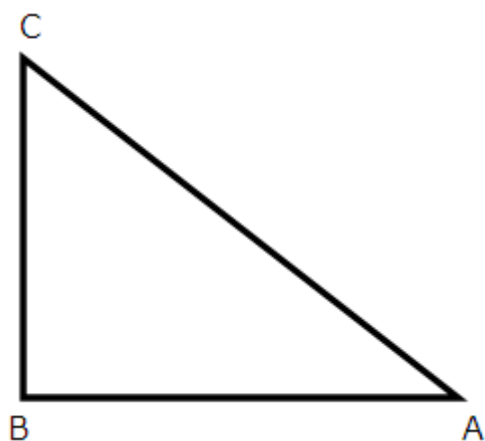
$$\operatorname{cosec} 90^\circ = 1$$

$$\cos 90^\circ = 0$$

$$\sec 90^\circ = ?$$

$$\tan 90^\circ = ?$$

$$\cot 90^\circ = 0$$



## Trigonometric Ratios of $45^\circ$

In  $\triangle ABC$ , right angled at B, if one angle is  $45^\circ$ , then the other angle by angle sum property of triangle will also be  $45^\circ$ .  
 $\angle A = \angle C = 45^\circ$

So,  $BC = AB$  (Isosceles triangle property)

Let,  $AB = BC = 'a'$

Then by [Pythagoras theorem](#),  $AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$

$$AC^2 = a^2 + a^2 = 2a^2$$

$$AC = a\sqrt{2}.$$

Using formulas for [trigonometric ratios](#):

$$\sin 45^\circ = \frac{\text{Side opposite to angle } 45^\circ}{\text{Hypotenuse}} = \frac{a/a\sqrt{2}}{a\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

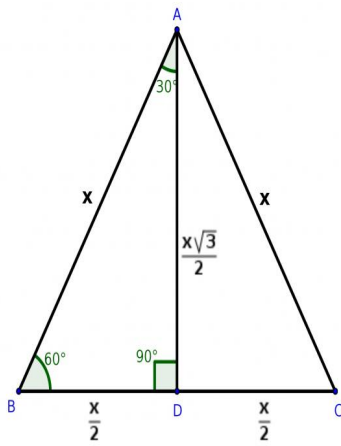
$$\cos 45^\circ = \frac{\text{Side adjacent to angle } 45^\circ}{\text{Hypotenuse}} = \frac{a/a\sqrt{2}}{a\sqrt{2}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$\tan 45^\circ = \frac{\text{Side opposite to angle } 45^\circ}{\text{Side adjacent to angle } 45^\circ} = \frac{a}{a} = 1$$

$$\text{Also, } \operatorname{Cosec} 45^\circ = \sqrt{2}, \sec 45^\circ = \sqrt{2}, \cot 45^\circ = 1$$

## Trigonometric Ratios of $30^\circ$ and $60^\circ$

Let  $\triangle ABC$ , be an [equilateral triangle](#). So,  $\angle A = \angle B = \angle C = 60^\circ$



Draw perpendicular AD from A to the side BC.

Now,  $\triangle ABD \cong \triangle ACD$  (by ASA)

Therefore,  $BD = DC$

$\angle BAD = \angle CAD$  (by CPCT)

Consider,  $\triangle ABD$

$A = 30^\circ$ ,  $B = 60^\circ$ ,  $D = 90^\circ$

Let  $AB = x$

So,  $BD = x/2$

And we will find the length of AD by Pythagoras theorem.

$$AB^2 = AD^2 + BD^2$$

$$AB^2 - BD^2 = AD^2$$

$$x^2 - x^2/4 = AD^2$$

$$AD^2 = 3x^2/4$$

$$AD = x\sqrt{3}/2$$

Using formulas for trigonometric ratios:

$$\sin 30^\circ = \frac{\text{Side opposite to angle } 30^\circ}{\text{Hypotenuse}} = x/2 / x = 1/2$$

$$\cos 30^\circ = \frac{\text{Side adjacent to angle } 30^\circ}{\text{Hypotenuse}} = x\sqrt{3}/2 / x = \sqrt{3}/2$$

$$\tan 30^\circ = \frac{\text{Side opposite to angle } 30^\circ}{\text{Side adjacent to angle } 30^\circ} = x/2 / x\sqrt{3}/2 = 1/\sqrt{3}$$

Also,  $\text{Cosec } 30^\circ = 2$ ,  $\text{Sec } 30^\circ = 2/\sqrt{3}$ ,  $\text{Cot } 30^\circ = \sqrt{3}$

Similarly,

$$\sin 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}/2$$

$$\text{Cosec } 60^\circ = 2/\sqrt{3}$$

$$\cos 60^\circ = 1/2$$

$$\text{Sec } 60^\circ = 2$$

$$\tan 60^\circ = \sqrt{3}$$

$$\text{Cot } 60^\circ = 1/\sqrt{3}$$

Now try it yourself! Should you still need any help, [click here](#) to schedule live online session with e Tutor!

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## Reference Links:

<http://www.purplemath.com/modules/basirati.htm>

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right\\_triangle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Right_triangle)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Triangle#Trigonometric\\_ratios\\_in\\_right\\_triangles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Triangle#Trigonometric_ratios_in_right_triangles)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pythagorean\\_theorem](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pythagorean_theorem)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equilateral\\_triangle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Equilateral_triangle)
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