

Today's Learning Goal(s): By the end of the class, I will be able to:  
a) prove trigonometric identities.

## 5.5 Trigonometric Identities

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Equations** are valid for only certain values of the variable.

For example:

$$2x + 1 = 7$$

$$x^2 - 5x - 14 = 0$$

**Identities** are valid for **all values** of the variable.

For example:

$$2(x + 3) = 2x + 6 \quad x^2 + 6x + 9 = (x + 3)^2$$

Let's start with the circle definitions to develop some identities that we can use later.

***SYR CXR TYX***

$$\sin \theta = \frac{y}{r}$$

$$\cos \theta = \frac{x}{r}$$

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

**To Prove an Identity:**

**\* Separate the LS and RS, and work on them separately**

Ex.1 Prove that  $\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$

**Restriction**

$$\cos \theta \neq 0$$

$$\theta \neq \cos^{-1}(0)$$

$$\theta \neq 90^\circ$$

Q.E.D. (also written QED)

"quod erat demonstrandum"

"that which was to be demonstrated"

Ex.2 Prove that  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$

Ex.3 Prove that  Use "known" identities; i.e. known since Ex.1&2

a)  $\frac{\cos \alpha \tan \alpha}{\sin \alpha} = 1$

b)  $\cos \phi = \frac{1}{\cos \phi} - \sin \phi \tan \phi$

## Identities

### Reciprocal Identities

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

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

### Quotient Identities

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

### Pythagorean Identities

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

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

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

Today's Homework Practice includes:

p. 310 #1 – 6

*Work ahead?* pp. 310-311 #8, 10 – 12 [14]

Worksheet a – j (*online*)

Note: Sometimes using substitution can help simplify a question.

Ex. Simplify  $(1 - \cos\theta)(1 + \cos\theta)$       Change to  $(1 - a)(1 + a)$