

Shortcut formulas: to find a side:

Law of Cosines Practice:

$$a = \sqrt{b^2 + c^2 - 2bc \cos A}$$

to find an angle

$$m\angle A = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{a^2 - b^2 - c^2}{-2bc} \right)$$

Solve each triangle. Round sides to nearest tenth and angles to nearest degree:

1.

Find side c

$$c^2 = 27^2 + 22^2 - 2(27)(22)\cos 105^\circ$$

$$c = \sqrt{27^2 + 22^2 - 2(27)(22)\cos 105^\circ}$$

$$c \approx 39.0 \text{ ft}$$

Find $m\angle B$: $\cos^{-1} \left(\frac{27^2 - 39.0^2 - 22^2}{-2(39.0)(22)} \right)$

$$m\angle B \approx 42.0^\circ$$

2.

$$b = \sqrt{25^2 + 16^2 - 2(25)(16)\cos 97^\circ}$$

$$b \approx 31.3 \text{ cm}$$

$$m\angle A = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{16^2 - 31.3^2 - 25^2}{-2(31.3)(25)} \right)$$

$$m\angle A \approx 30.5^\circ$$

3. In $\triangle ABC$, $a = 14 \text{ cm}$, $b = 9 \text{ cm}$, $c = 6 \text{ cm}$

$$m\angle A = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{14^2 - 9^2 - 6^2}{-2(9)(6)} \right)$$

$$m\angle A \approx 137.0^\circ$$

$$m\angle B = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{9^2 - 6^2 - 14^2}{-2(6)(14)} \right)$$

$$m\angle B \approx 26.0^\circ$$

4. In $\triangle XYZ$, $m\angle X = 138^\circ$, $y = 15 \text{ in}$, $z = 25 \text{ in}$

$$x = \sqrt{15^2 + 25^2 - 2(15)(25)\cos 138^\circ}$$

$$x \approx 37.5 \text{ in.}$$

$$m\angle Z = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{25^2 - 15^2 - 37.5^2}{-2(15)(37.5)} \right)$$

$$m\angle Z \approx 26.6^\circ$$

5. In $\triangle QRP$, $q = 12 \text{ in}$, $p = 28 \text{ in}$, $r = 18 \text{ in}$

$$m\angle P = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{28^2 - 18^2 - 12^2}{-2(18)(12)} \right)$$

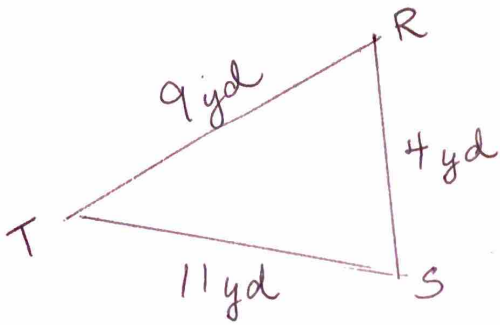
$$m\angle P \approx 137.0^\circ$$

$$m\angle Q = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{12^2 - 18^2 - 28^2}{-2(18)(28)} \right)$$

$$m\angle Q \approx 17.0^\circ$$

Find the area to the nearest tenth using Heron's Formula:

6. In $\triangle TRS$, $s = 9$ yd, $r = 11$ yd, $t = 4$ yd



$$S = \frac{9 + 4 + 11}{2}$$

$$S = 12$$

$$A = \sqrt{12(12-9)(12-4)(12-11)}$$

$$A \approx 17.0 \text{ yds}^2$$

7. In $\triangle CAB$, $b = 14$ km, $c = 7$ km, $a = 15$ km

$$S = \frac{14 + 7 + 15}{2}$$

$$S = 18$$

$$A = \sqrt{18(18-14)(18-7)(18-15)}$$

$$A \approx 48.7 \text{ km}^2$$