

Special Right Triangles

Simplify.

$$1. \quad \frac{7}{\sqrt{2}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{7\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$2. \quad \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

$$3. \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{5}$$

Solve the equation.

$$4. \quad \frac{3x}{3} = \frac{15}{3}$$

$$x = 5$$

$$5. \quad \frac{x\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{2}}$$

$$x = \frac{5\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$$6. \quad \frac{x\sqrt{7}}{\sqrt{7}} = \frac{12}{\sqrt{7}}$$

$$x = \frac{12\sqrt{7}}{7}$$

There are many ways to remember these formulas. Here are just a few...

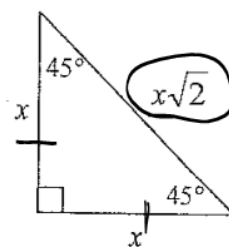
Formulas & "Special Numbers"

Visual Patterns

45° - 45° - 90° Δ

HYPOTENUSE = $x\sqrt{2}$

(Just remember $\sqrt{2}$ is the special # for a 45° - 45° - 90° Δ)



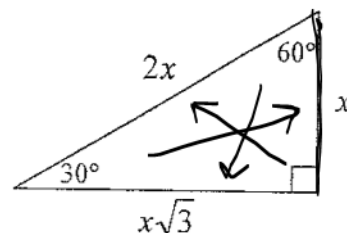
30° - 60° - 90° Δ

HYPOTENUSE = $2x$

(Just remember 2 is the special # for HYPOTENUSE in a 30° - 60° - 90° Δ)

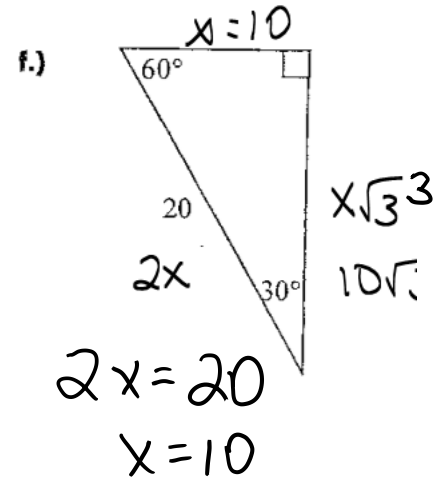
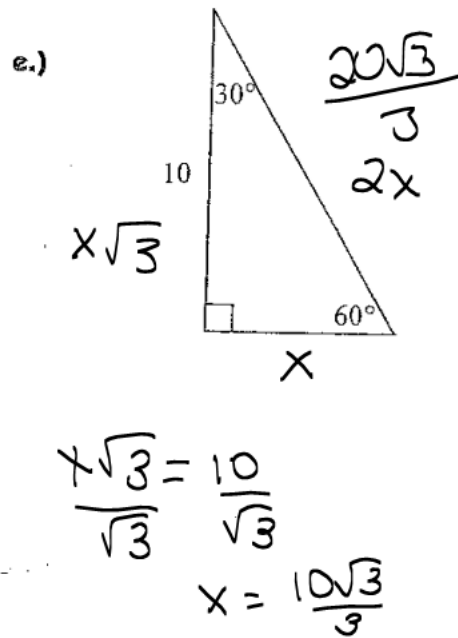
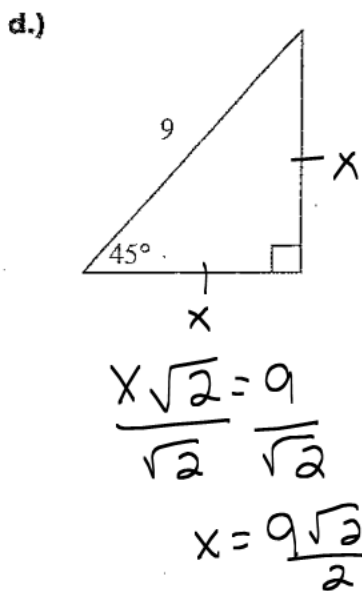
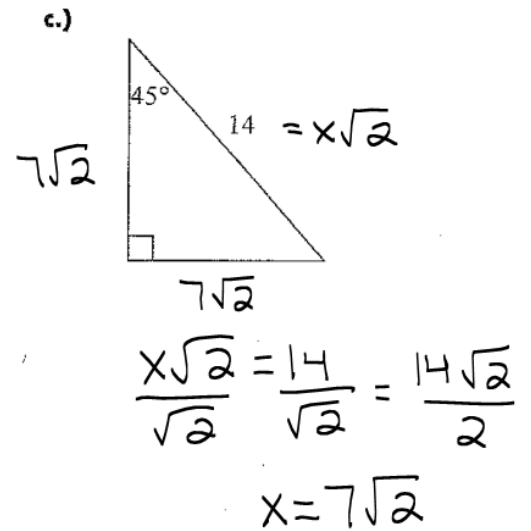
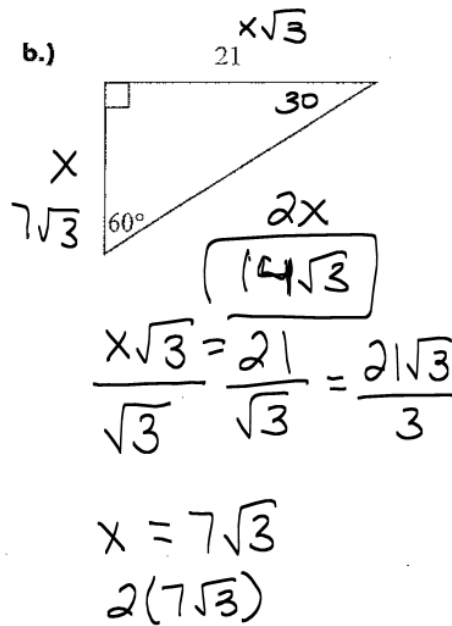
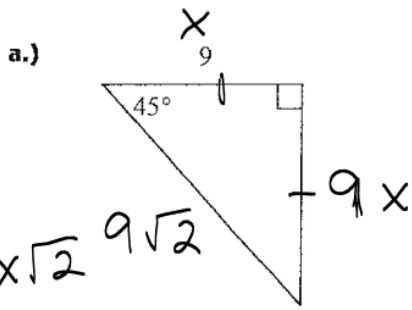
LONG LEG = $x\sqrt{3}$

(Just remember $\sqrt{3}$ is the special # for the LONG LEG)

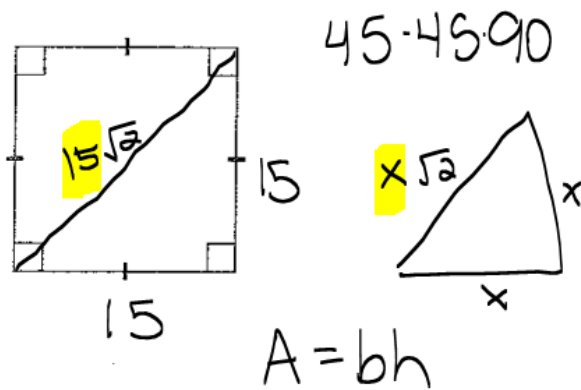


Ex 1 Try some problems. Find all the missing sides.

(It may be helpful to write the special number, formula or "pattern" by problem.)



When you draw the diagonal of a square, what kind of triangles do you get?

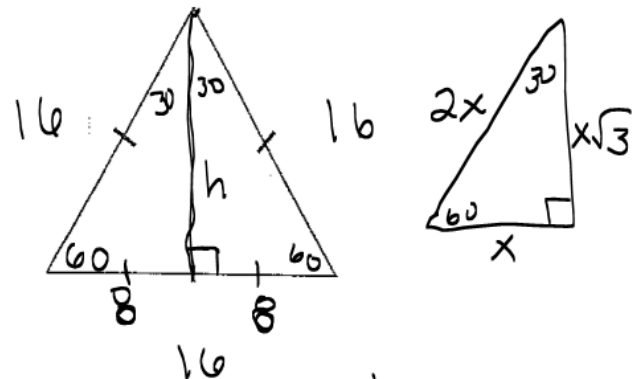


Ex 2

If the diagonal of a square is $15\sqrt{2}$, find the area of the square.

$$\begin{aligned} A &= bh \\ &= 15(15) \\ &= 225 \end{aligned}$$

When you draw the altitude of an equilateral triangle, what kind of triangles do you get?



Ex 3

If the side of an equilateral triangle is 16, find the area of the triangle.

$$h = 8\sqrt{3}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2}(16)(8\sqrt{3}) \\ &= 8(8\sqrt{3}) \\ &= 64\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$