

Pythagoras' Theorem - A Rule About Right-Angled Triangles

For each of the right-angled triangles, use your centimeter ruler to measure all three sides. Call the shortest side A, the next shortest side B, and the longest side C. Record their lengths in the table below. The first triangle is done as an example.

Triangle No.	Side A	Side B	Side C	(Side A) ²	(Side B) ²	(Side C) ²
1	8 cm	15 cm	17 cm			
2						
3						
4						
5						

Complete all of the columns. Look for a pattern. Find a rule for the lengths of the sides of a right-angled triangle? For example, what is the rule for finding the length of the longest side, if you know that the lengths of the two shortest sides of a triangle are 7 cm and 24 cm?

