

Cofunction Identities

1. Write each of the following in terms of the cofunction identity.

a) $\sin \frac{\pi}{6}$

b) $\sin \frac{2\pi}{5}$

c) $\sin \frac{5\pi}{8}$

d) $\cos \frac{3\pi}{4}$

e) $\cos \frac{2\pi}{9}$

f) $\cos \frac{7\pi}{36}$

2. a) Verify your results from #1 {b c e f} with a calculator.
b) Verify your results from #1 {a d} without using a calculator.

3. Write $\csc \frac{2\pi}{3}$ in terms of secant. Recall that cosecant is the reciprocal of the sine function and secant is the reciprocal of the cosine function.

4. Express $\csc x$ using an equivalent trigonometric expression involving secant.

5. Express $\sec x$ using an equivalent trigonometric expression involving cosecant.

6. a) Verify your results in #4 graphically.
b) Verify your results in #5 graphically.

7. a) Graph $y = \cot x$

b) Reflect $y = \cot x$ in the y -axis.

c) What phase shift is required to your graph in part (b) to obtain the graph of $y = \tan x$?

d) Write a cofunction identity relating tangent and cotangent. We are not looking for $\tan x = \frac{1}{\cot x}$.

8. a) Graph $y = \tan x$

b) Reflect $y = \tan x$ in the y -axis.

c) What phase shift is required to your graph in part (b) to obtain the graph of $y = \cot x$?

d) Write a cofunction identity relating cotangent and tangent. We are not looking for $\cot x = \frac{1}{\tan x}$.

9. Write a summary of the cofunction identities.

Answers: 1. a) $\cos \frac{\pi}{3}$ b) $\cos \frac{\pi}{10}$ c) $\cos \left(-\frac{\pi}{8}\right)$ d) $\sin \left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right)$ e) $\sin \left(\frac{5\pi}{18}\right)$ f) $\sin \left(\frac{11\pi}{36}\right)$ 3. $\sec \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right) = \sec \left(\frac{-\pi}{6}\right)$

4. $\sec \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$

5. $\csc \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$

7. d) $\tan x = \cot \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$

8. d) $\cot x = \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$

9. $\sin x = \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$, $\cos x = \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$, $\csc x = \sec \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$, $\sec x = \csc \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$, $\tan x = \cot \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$, $\cot x = \tan \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - x\right)$