

# Math 1060 ~ Trigonometry

## 3 The Unit Circle

### Learning Objectives

In this section you will:

- Sketch oriented arcs on the Unit Circle.
- Determine the cosine and sine values of an angle from a point on the Unit Circle.
- Learn and apply the Pythagorean Identity.
- Apply the Reference Angle Theorem.
- Learn the cosine and sine values for the common angles whether in degrees or radians.
- Learn the signs of the cosine and sine functions in each quadrant.

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

$\sin 2u = 2 \sin u \cos u$

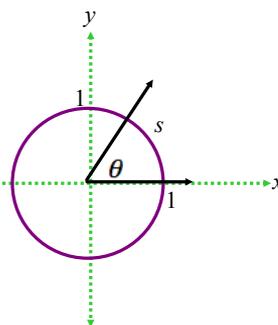
$\frac{a}{\sin A} = \frac{b}{\sin B} = \frac{c}{\sin C}$

$c^2 = a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos C$

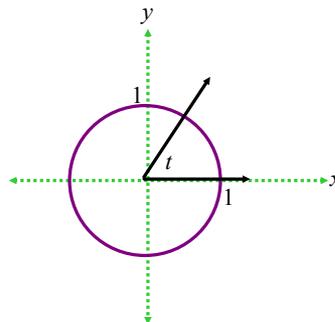
### The Unit Circle

Consider the Unit Circle,  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ , with angle  $\theta$  in standard position and the corresponding arc measuring  $s$  units in length.

$$s = r\theta$$

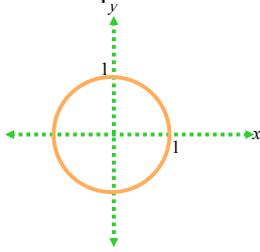


To identify real numbers with oriented angles, we "wrap" the real number line around the Unit Circle and associate to each real number  $t$  an oriented arc on the unit circle with initial point  $(1,0)$ .

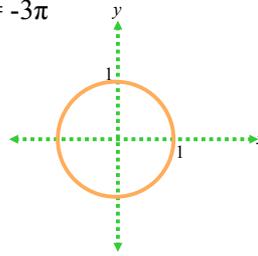


Ex 1: Sketch the oriented arc on the Unit Circle corresponding to each of these real numbers.

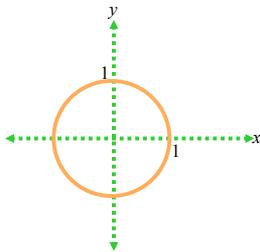
a)  $t = \frac{3\pi}{4}$



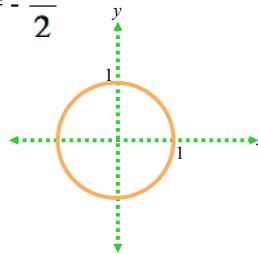
b)  $t = -3\pi$



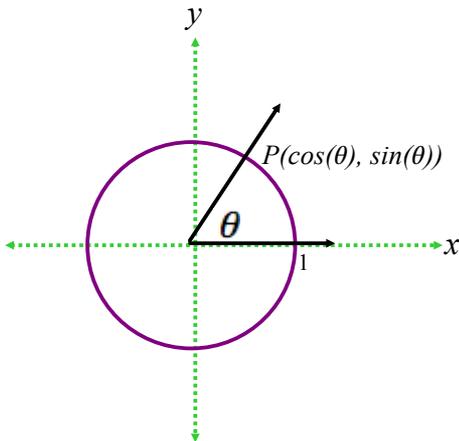
c)  $t = 2$



d)  $t = -\frac{\pi}{2}$



Determining the cosine and sine functions as points on the Unit Circle.

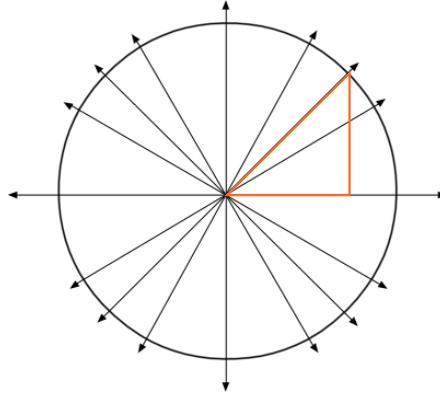
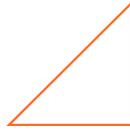


Ex 2:

a) Label the quadrant angles above in radians and degrees and determine the cosine and sine of each.

b)  $\cos(-\pi) =$

Question: If the hypotenuse of an isosceles right triangle is 1 unit, how long are each of the legs?

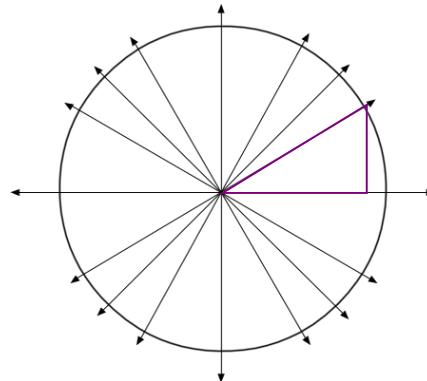
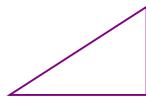


Ex 3:

a) On the figure above, label all the points on the Unit Circle corresponding with angles which are multiples of  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ .

b)  $\sin \frac{5\pi}{4} =$

Question: If the hypotenuse of a right 30°-60°-90° triangle is 1 unit, how long are each of the legs?



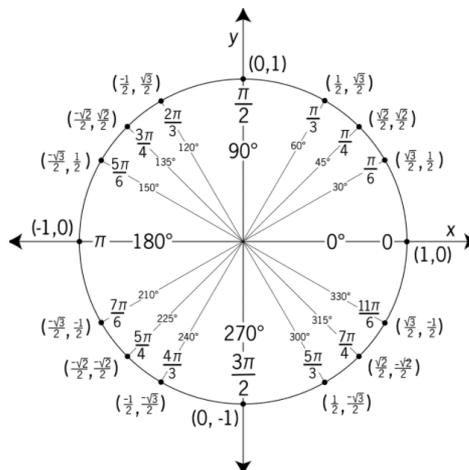
Ex 4:

a) On the figure above, label all the points on the Unit Circle corresponding with angles which are multiples of  $\frac{\pi}{6}$ .

b)  $\cos \frac{5\pi}{6} =$

c)  $\sin \frac{2\pi}{3} =$

A complete Unit Circle looks like this.



Given the symmetry of the Unit Circle and The Reference Angle Theorem, you can determine cosine and sine values of these common angles readily.

### Reference Angle

A reference angle for a non-terminal angle,  $\theta$ , is that angle made up of the terminal side of  $\theta$  and the  $x$ -axis.

- It is always positive.
- It is always acute.

**Reference Angle Theorem:** Suppose  $\alpha$  is the reference angle for  $\theta$ . Then  $\cos \theta = \pm \cos \alpha$  and  $\sin \theta = \pm \sin \alpha$ , where the sign is determined by the quadrant in which the terminal side of  $\theta$  lies.

Ex 5: For each of the following angles, determine the reference angle and the sine and cosine of each.

Sine and Cosine Values of Common Angles

$\theta$ degrees	$\theta$ radians	$\cos(\theta)$	$\sin(\theta)$
$0^\circ$	0	1	0
$30^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{6}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
$45^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$
$60^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$
$90^\circ$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	0	1

a)  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$

b)  $-\frac{5\pi}{6}$

c)  $270^\circ$

d)  $-315^\circ$

The Pythagorean Identity

For any angle,  $\theta$ ,  $\cos^2\theta + \sin^2\theta = 1$ .

Ex 6: Using the given information about  $\theta$ , find the indicated value.

a) If  $\theta$  is a second quadrant angle, such that  $\sin \theta = \frac{3}{4}$ , find  $\cos \theta$ .

b) If  $\theta$  is between  $\pi$  and  $\frac{3\pi}{2}$  and  $\cos \theta = \frac{1}{2}$ , find  $\sin \theta$ .

c) If  $\sin \theta = 1$ , find  $\cos \theta$ .