Vocabulary: Classifying Triangles

**Vocabulary**



* Acute – having a measure greater than 0° and less than 90°.
* An *acute triangle* has three acute angles.
* For example, Δ*ABC*, shown tothe right, is acute.



* Equilateral – having all sides congruent.
* An *equilateral triangle* has three congruent sides.
* For example, Δ*ABC*, shown to the right, is equilateral.
* Isosceles – having at least two sides congruent.
* The *legs* of an isosceles triangle are the congruent sides.
* The *base* of an isosceles triangle is the side that is not congruent to the other two sides.
* The *base angles* of an isosceles triangle are adjacent to the base.
* The *vertex angle* of an isosceles triangle is the angle opposite the base.
* Obtuse – having a measure greater than 90° and less than 180°.
* An *obtuse triangle* has one obtuse angle.
* For example, Δ*ABC*, shown tothe right, is obtuse.
* Right – having a measure equal to 90°.

**leg**

**leg**

**hypotenuse**

* A *right triangle* has one right angle.
* The *legs* of a right triangle are adjacent to the right angle.
* The *hypotenuse* of a right triangle is the side opposite the right angle.



* Scalene – having three sides that are different lengths.
* For example, Δ*ABC*, shown tothe right, is scalene.