

Vocabulary: Congruence in Right Triangles



Vocabulary

- **Congruent** – having the same size and shape.
 - The symbol \cong means “is congruent to.”
 - Two triangles are congruent when all of the corresponding angles and corresponding sides are congruent.
 - For example, in the figures to the right, $\triangle ABC \cong \triangle DEF$.
- **Corresponding angles (of a polygon)** – the matching angles of polygons.
 - For example, the corresponding angles in $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle DEF$ are $\angle A$ and $\angle D$, $\angle B$ and $\angle E$, and $\angle C$ and $\angle F$.
- **Corresponding sides** – the matching sides of polygons.
 - For example, the corresponding sides in $\triangle ABC$ and $\triangle DEF$ are \overline{AB} and \overline{DE} , \overline{BC} and \overline{EF} , and \overline{CA} and \overline{FD} .
- **Hypotenuse** – the side of a right triangle opposite the right angle.
 - The hypotenuse is the longest side of a right triangle.
- **Legs (of a right triangle)** – the two sides of a right triangle that form the right angle.
- **Right triangle** – a triangle that contains one right angle.
- **Similar** – having the same shape, but not necessarily the same size.
 - The symbol \sim means “is similar to.”
 - Two polygons are similar when all corresponding angles are congruent.
 - For example, in the figure to the right, $\triangle ABC \sim \triangle EFG$.

