

Handout 3: Oh, Yeah? Prove It

Answers

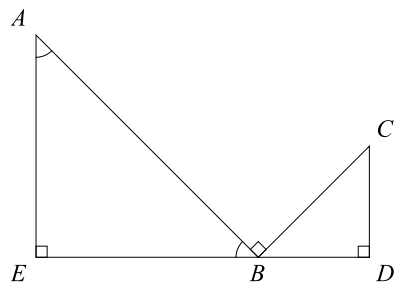


Figure 1

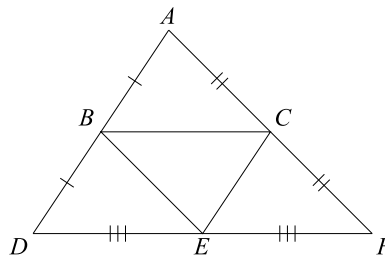


Figure 2

Use Figure 1 to prove that $\triangle ABE \sim \triangle CBD$ in questions 1-5.

1. What allows us to say that $\angle AEB = \angle CDB = \angle ABC = 90^\circ$?

This is given to us.

2. What's the sum of the measures of $\angle ABE$ and $\angle EAB$?

$\angle ABE + \angle EAB = 90^\circ$.

3. Fill in the blanks: _____ = _____ = 45° .

$\angle EAB = \angle ABE = 45^\circ$.

4. Find the measure of $\angle CBD$ and $\angle BCD$.

$\angle ABE + \angle ABC + \angle CBD = 180^\circ \Rightarrow \angle CBD = 4^\circ$ and $\angle BCD = 180^\circ - 45^\circ - 90^\circ = 45^\circ$.

5. Prove that $\triangle ABE \sim \triangle CBD$.

Since $\angle AEB = \angle CDB = 90^\circ$, $\angle ABE = \angle CBD = 45^\circ$, and $\angle EAB = \angle BCD = 45^\circ$, we can pick any two and use the Angle-Angle Postulate to prove the triangles are similar.

Use Figure 2 to prove that $\triangle DAF \sim \triangle BEC$ in questions 6 – 10.

6. What allows us to say that B is the midpoint of \overline{AD} ?

Triangle Midsegment Theorem.

7. Find the ratio $BC : DF$.

$\frac{BC}{DF} = \frac{1}{2}$.

8. Find the ratio $BE : AF$.

$\frac{BE}{AF} = \frac{1}{2}$.

9. Find the ratio $CE : AD$.

$\frac{CE}{AD} = \frac{1}{2}$.

10. Prove that $\triangle DAF \sim \triangle BEC$.

Since $\frac{BC}{DF} = \frac{BE}{AF} = \frac{CE}{AD} = \frac{1}{2}$, by the Side-Side-Side Postulate, the triangles are similar.