

## 4.6 Trigonometric Identities *part 1*

*Identity: an equation that is always true, regardless of the value of the variable.*

### The Fundamental Trig Identities

Fundamental Trigonometric Identities		
Reciprocal Identities	Quotient Identities	Pythagorean Identities
$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$ $\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$ $\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$	$\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \tan \theta$	$\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$

# Tips for Proving Complex Identities

Tips and Tricks		
Reciprocal Identities	Quotient Identities	Pythagorean Identities
Square both sides $\csc^2 \theta = \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta}$ $\sec^2 \theta = \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta}$ $\cot^2 \theta = \frac{1}{\tan^2 \theta}$	Square both sides $\frac{\sin^2 \theta}{\cos^2 \theta} = \tan^2 \theta$	Rearrange the identity $\sin^2 \theta = 1 - \cos^2 \theta$ $\cos^2 \theta = 1 - \sin^2 \theta$
<b>General tips for proving identities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) Try to change everything to <math>\sin \theta</math> or <math>\cos \theta</math></li> <li>ii) If you have to fractions being added or subtracted, find a common denominator and combine the fractions</li> <li>iii) Use difference of squares <math>\rightarrow 1 - \sin^2 \theta = (1 - \sin \theta)(1 + \sin \theta)</math></li> <li>iv) Use the power rule <math>\rightarrow \sin^6 \theta = (\sin^2 \theta)^3</math></li> </ul>		

**Example 1:** Prove that  $\frac{\cos \theta \tan \theta}{\sin \theta} = 1$

<p style="text-align: center;">L.S.</p> $= \frac{\cos \theta \tan \theta}{\sin \theta}$ $= \frac{\cancel{\cos \theta} \left( \frac{\sin \theta}{\cancel{\cos \theta}} \right)}{\sin \theta}$ $= \frac{\sin \theta}{\sin \theta}$ $= 1$	$\downarrow$ Q.I.	<p style="text-align: center;">R.S.</p> $= 1$
$LS = RS$		

**Example 2:** Prove that  $\tan^2\theta + 1 = \sec^2\theta$

L.S.		R.S.
$= \tan^2\theta + 1$		$= \sec^2\theta$
$= \frac{\sin^2\theta}{\cos^2\theta} + 1$	↓ Q.I.	↓ R.I.
$= \frac{\sin^2\theta}{\cos^2\theta} + \frac{\cos^2\theta}{\cos^2\theta}$	get a common denom	$= \frac{1}{\cos^2\theta}$
$= \frac{\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta}{\cos^2\theta}$	↓ P.I.	
$= \frac{1}{\cos^2\theta}$	LS = RS	

**Example 3:** Prove that  $\cos^2 x = (1 - \sin x)(1 + \sin x)$

L.S.		R.S.
$= \cos^2 x$		$= (1 - \sin x)(1 + \sin x)$
$= 1 - \sin^2 x$	↓ P.I.	↓ DOS
	LS = RS	

**Example 4:** Prove that  $1 - \cos^2\theta = \sin\theta \cos\theta \tan\theta$

L.S.	R.S.
$= 1 - \cos^2\theta$	$= \sin\theta (\cos\theta)(\tan\theta)$
$= \sin^2\theta$	$= \sin\theta (\cos\theta) \left(\frac{\sin\theta}{\cos\theta}\right)$
	$= \sin\theta (\sin\theta)$
	$= \sin^2\theta$

LS = RS

**Example 5:** Prove that  $\sin^6\theta = (1 - \cos^2\theta)^3$

L.S.	R.S.
$= \sin^6\theta$	$= (1 - \cos^2\theta)^3$
	$= (\sin^2\theta)^3$
	$= \sin^6\theta$

LS = RS

### Example 6:

Prove that  $\frac{\sin^2 x}{1 - \cos x} = 1 + \cos x$

L.S.	R.S.
$= \frac{\sin^2 x}{1 - \cos x}$	$= 1 + \cos x$
$= \frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{1 - \cos x}$	
$= \frac{\cancel{(1 - \cos x)}(1 + \cos x)}{\cancel{1 - \cos x}}$	
$= 1 + \cos x$	

LS = RS