

Proving the Pythagorean Theorem

There are two sets of shaded triangles and two squares below. Each shaded triangle has legs with lengths a and b and a hypotenuse of length c .

1. Use scissors to carefully cut out each triangle of the first set. Arrange the triangles in the square as shown. Label all sides.
2. Now use scissors to carefully cut out each triangle from the second set. Arrange the triangles as shown. Label all sides.
3. Write an algebraic equation to show the relationship between the squares in each set.

