

Finnegan Granholm Pythagorean Theorem Proof

Step 1: show $z = 90^\circ$

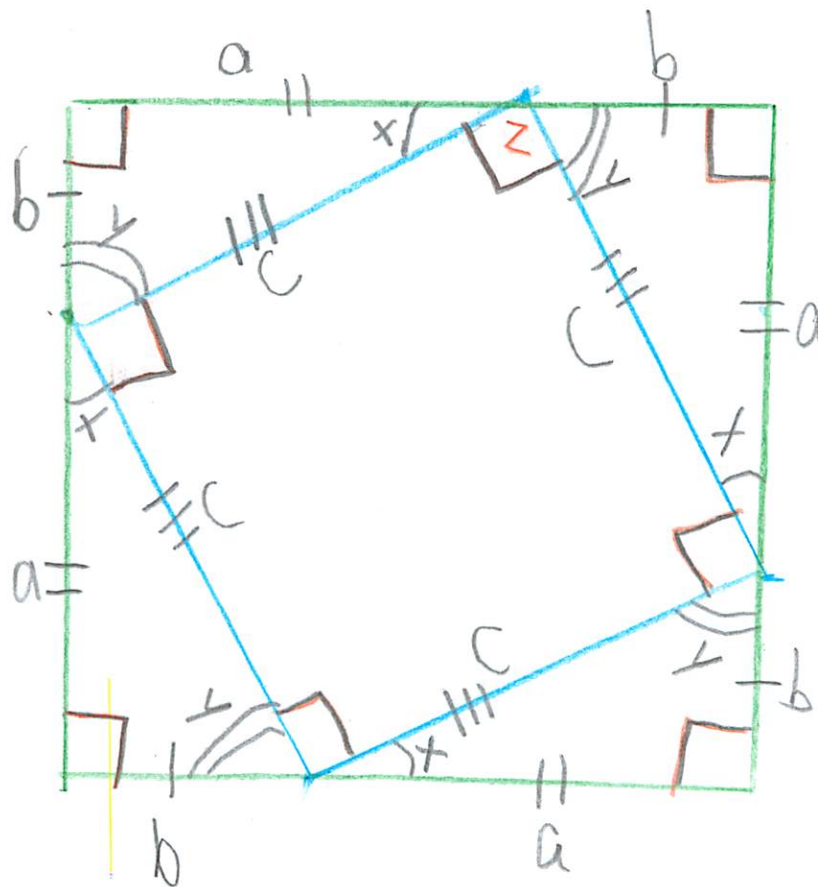
$$x + y + z = 180^\circ$$

Angles inside triangle =

$$180^\circ = x + y + 90$$

$$\cancel{x + y + 90} = \cancel{x + y + z}$$

$$z = 90^\circ$$



{Step #2 - Area of triangles}

$$A_{\Delta} = \frac{1}{2}ab$$

~3: Area of inside square.

$$A_{\text{inside } \square} = lw = c(c) = c^2$$

Step 4 - Area of outer square

$$A_{\text{outer } \square} = 4\left(\frac{1}{2}ab\right) + c^2 = 2ab + c^2$$

length of side equals $a+b$)

$$A_{\text{outer } \square} = (a+b)(a+b) = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

Set the areas equal:

$$\begin{array}{r} a^2 + 2ab + b^2 \\ - 2ab \\ \hline a^2 + b^2 = c^2 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore a^2 + b^2 = c^2$$

Pythagorean Theorem