

# computeFaces()

Computes the geometry's faces using its vertices.

All 3D shapes are made by connecting sets of points called *vertices*. A geometry's surface is formed by connecting vertices to form triangles that are stitched together. Each triangular patch on the geometry's surface is called a *face*. `myGeometry.computeFaces()` performs the math needed to define each face based on the distances between vertices.

The geometry's vertices are stored as `p5.Vector` objects in the `myGeometry.vertices` array. The geometry's first vertex is the `p5.Vector` object at `myGeometry.vertices[0]`, its second vertex is `myGeometry.vertices[1]`, its third vertex is `myGeometry.vertices[2]`, and so on.

Calling `myGeometry.computeFaces()` fills the `myGeometry.faces` array with three-element arrays that list the vertices that form each face. For example, a geometry made from a rectangle has two faces because a rectangle is made by joining two triangles. `myGeometry.faces` for a rectangle would be the two-dimensional array `[[0, 1, 2], [2, 1, 3]]`. The first face, `myGeometry.faces[0]`, is the array `[0, 1, 2]` because it's formed by connecting `myGeometry.vertices[0]`, `myGeometry.vertices[1]`, and `myGeometry.vertices[2]`. The second face, `myGeometry.faces[1]`, is the array `[2, 1, 3]` because it's formed by connecting `myGeometry.vertices[2]`, `myGeometry.vertices[1]`, and `myGeometry.vertices[3]`.

Note: `myGeometry.computeFaces()` only works when geometries have four or more vertices.

## Examples

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// Click and drag the mouse to view the scene from different angles.

let myGeometry;

function setup() {  
 createCanvas(100, 100, WEBGL);  
  
 // Create a p5.Geometry object.  
 myGeometry = new p5.Geometry();  
  
 // Create p5.Vector objects to position the vertices.  
 let v0 = createVector(-40, 0, 0);  
 let v1 = createVector(0, -40, 0);  
 let v2 = createVector(0, 40, 0);  
 let v3 = createVector(40, 0, 0);  
  
 // Add the vertices to myGeometry's vertices array.  
 myGeometry.vertices.push(v0, v1, v2, v3);  
  
 // Compute myGeometry's faces array.  
 myGeometry.computeFaces();  
  
 describe('A red square drawn on a gray background.');

▶

■

// Click and drag the mouse to view the scene from different angles.

let myGeometry;

function setup() {  
 createCanvas(100, 100, WEBGL);  
  
 // Create a p5.Geometry object using a callback function.  
 myGeometry = new p5.Geometry(1, 1, createShape);  
  
 describe('A red square drawn on a gray background.');

function draw() {  
 background(200);  
  
 // Enable orbiting with the mouse.  
 orbitControl();  
  
 // Turn on the lights.  
 lights();  
  
 // Style the shape.  
 noStroke();  
 fill(255, 0, 0);  
  
 // Draw the p5.Geometry object.  
 model(myGeometry);  
}

function createShape() {  
 // Create p5.Vector objects to position the vertices.

This page is generated from the comments in `src/webgl/p5.Geometry.js`. Please feel free to edit it and submit a pull request!

## Related References

<div>calculateBoundingBox</div> <div>Calculates the position and size of the smallest box that contains the geometry.</div>	<div>clearColors</div> <div>Removes the geometry's internal colors.</div>	<div>computeFaces</div> <div>Computes the geometry's faces using its vertices.</div>	<div>computeNormals</div> <div>Calculates the normal vector for each vertex on the geometry.</div>
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