



**Why**

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**Definition**

A *forest* is an undirected graph if it does not contain any cycles.

A *tree* is a connected and acyclic undirected graph. Since the tree is connected, by taking the family union of its edges we obtain the vertex set. For this reason, we often only reference the edge set when speaking of trees. But, in these sheets, a tree is always an ordered pair.

**Notation**

Let  $T = (V, E)$  be a tree, a mnemonic for “tree.”

**Properties**

**Proposition 1.** *A unique path exists between any two vertices of a tree.*

*Proof.* The path exists because a tree is connected. The path is unique, since were it not, we could create a cycle by combining these paths. □

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<sup>1</sup>Future editions will include.



