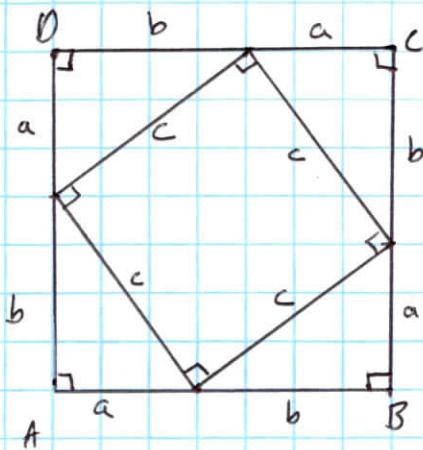


Theorem:  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$



Proof:

Area of triangle is  $\frac{1}{2} \text{base} \times \text{height}$

Triangle abc has area  $\frac{1}{2} b \cdot a$

Therefore area of big square ABCD  
is equal to the smaller square  
given by length c, plus  
the four triangles abc.

$$c^2 + 4\left(\frac{1}{2}b \cdot a\right) = (a+b)^2$$

$$c^2 + 2ab = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$

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

QED.