# Euclid's Elements Book IV

Philosophy (nature) is written in that great book which ever is before our eyes -- I mean the universe -- but we cannot understand it if we do not first learn the language and grasp the symbols in which it is written. The book is written in mathematical language, and the symbols are triangles, circles and other geometrical figures, without whose help it is impossible to comprehend a single word of it - without which one wanders in vain through a dark labyrinth.

Galileo Galilei



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# B

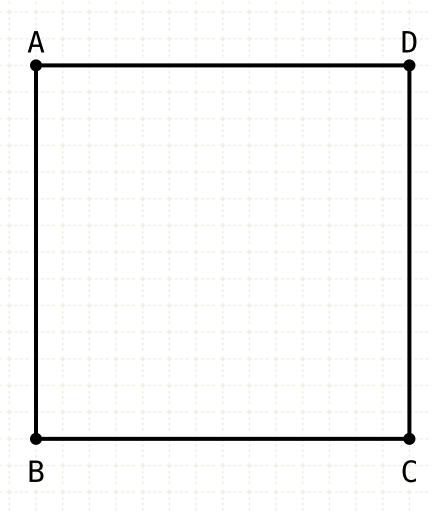
#### **Proposition 8 of Book IV**

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.

#### In other words

Given a square ABCD, draw a circle inside the square, touching each side of the square

### Construction





#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)



In a given square, to inscribe a circle.

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)
Draw EH parallel to AB (I·31)

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)



# F H C

#### **Proposition 8 of Book IV**

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

This circle is inscribed in the square

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

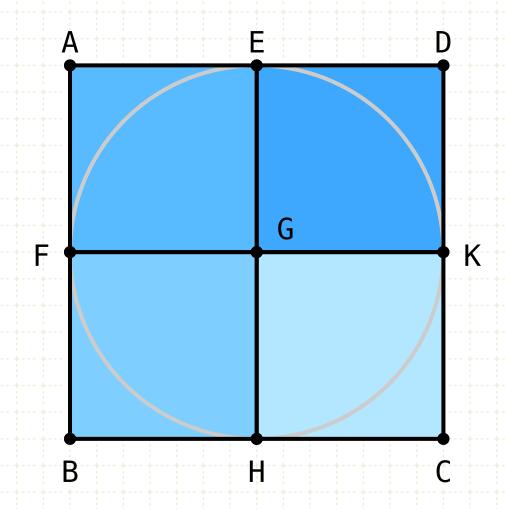
Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

This circle is inscribed in the square

#### **Proof**



In a given square, to inscribe a circle.



$$AE = FG = BH$$
  
 $ED = GK = HC$ 

$$AF = EG = DK$$

$$BF = HG = CK$$

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

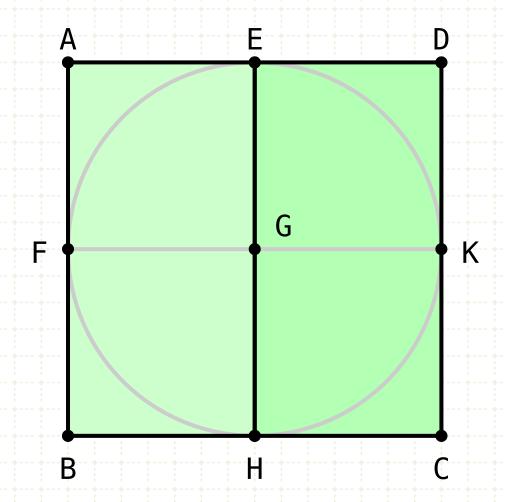
Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

This circle is inscribed in the square

#### **Proof**

Because all of the lines are parallel to each other, each sub-figure (AK,KB,AH,HD,AG,GC,BG,GD) is also a parallelogram and their opposite sides are equal (I·34)

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.



#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

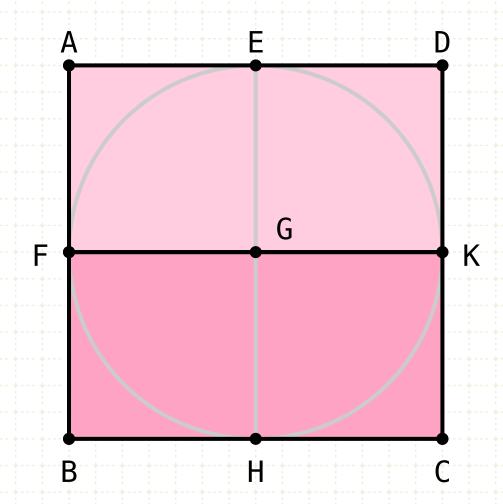
Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

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Because all of the lines are parallel to each other, each sub-figure (AK,KB,AH,HD,AG,GC,BG,GD) is also a parallelogram and their opposite sides are equal (I·34)

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#### Construction

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Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

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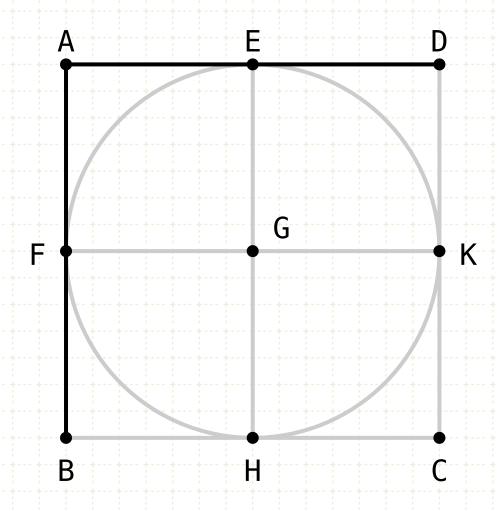
Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

This circle is inscribed in the square

#### **Proof**

Because all of the lines are parallel to each other, each sub-figure (AK,KB,AH,HD,AG,GC,BG,GD) is also a parallelogram and their opposite sides are equal (I·34)

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.



AD = AB  
AE = 
$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 AD, AF =  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB  
 $\therefore$  AE = AF

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I-10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

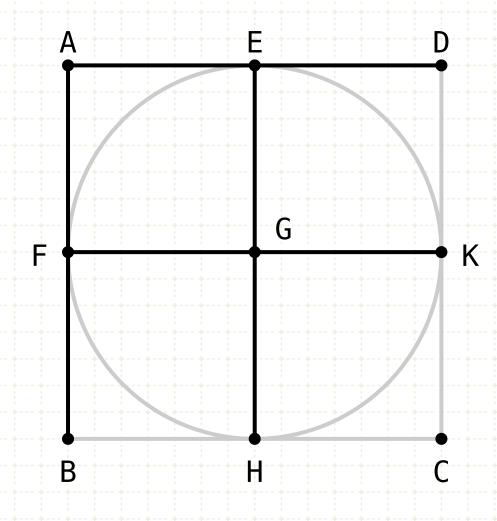
This circle is inscribed in the square

#### **Proof**

Because all of the lines are parallel to each other, each sub-figure (AK,KB,AH,HD,AG,GC,BG,GD) is also a parallelogram and their opposite sides are equal (I·34)

Since AD equals AB, and AE is half of AD and AF is half of AB, AE = EF

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.



$$AE = FG = BH$$

$$ED = GK = HC$$

$$AF = EG = DK$$

$$BF = HG = CK$$

$$AB = EH = DC$$

$$AD = FK = BC$$

$$AD = AB$$

$$AE = \frac{1}{2} AD$$
,  $AF = \frac{1}{2} AB$ 

$$\therefore AE = AF$$

$$=> FG = GE$$

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I-10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

This circle is inscribed in the square

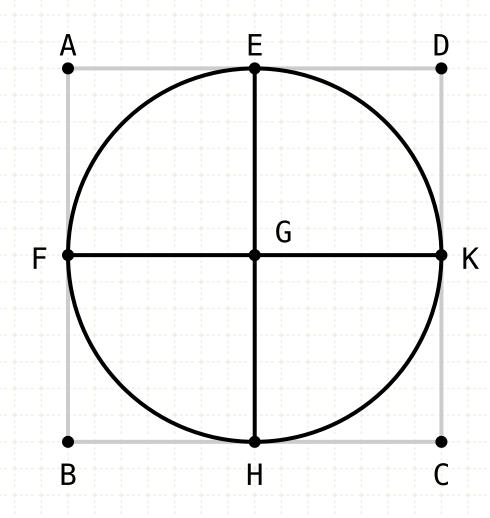
#### **Proof**

Because all of the lines are parallel to each other, each sub-figure (AK,KB,AH,HD,AG,GC,BG,GD) is also a parallelogram and their opposite sides are equal (I·34)

Since AD equals AB, and AE is half of AD and AF is half of AB, AE = EF

From our prior equalities, we know that AE equals FG and AF equals EG, so FG equals GE

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.



AD = AB

AE = 
$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 AD, AF =  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB

 $\therefore$  AE = AF

=> FG = GE

GE = GF = GH = GK

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I·10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

This circle is inscribed in the square

#### **Proof**

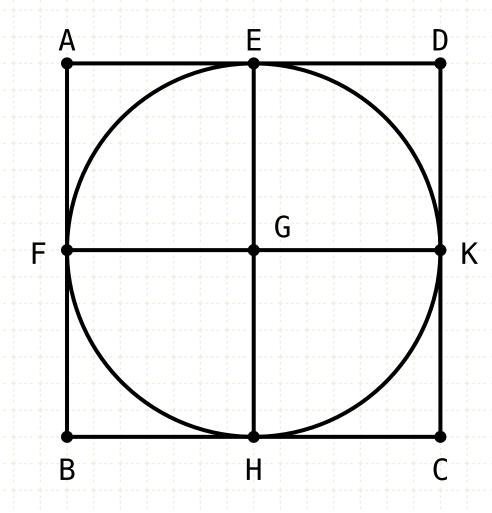
Because all of the lines are parallel to each other, each sub-figure (AK,KB,AH,HD,AG,GC,BG,GD) is also a parallelogram and their opposite sides are equal (I·34)

Since AD equals AB, and AE is half of AD and AF is half of AB, AE = EF

From our prior equalities, we know that AE equals FG and AF equals EG, so FG equals GE

Using similar logic, it can be shown that GK and GH are equal, thus a circle drawn with the centre at G, with radius EG will pass through the points E,F,H,K

In a given square, to inscribe a circle.



AD = AB

AE = 
$$\frac{1}{2}$$
 AD, AF =  $\frac{1}{2}$  AB

 $\therefore$  AE = AF

=> FG = GE

GE = GF = GH = GK

#### Construction

Bisect the lines AB and AD at points E and F (I-10)

Draw EH parallel to AB (I-31)

Draw FK parallel to AD (I-31)

Draw a circle with centre G, and radius GE

This circle is inscribed in the square

#### **Proof**

Because all of the lines are parallel to each other, each sub-figure (AK,KB,AH,HD,AG,GC,BG,GD) is also a parallelogram and their opposite sides are equal (I·34)

Since AD equals AB, and AE is half of AD and AF is half of AB, AE = EF

From our prior equalities, we know that AE equals FG and AF equals EG, so FG equals GE

Using similar logic, it can be shown that GK and GH are equal, thus a circle drawn with the centre at G, with radius EG will pass through the points E,F,H,K

And finally, since the angles at E,F,H,K are right, the lines comprising the square touch the circle (III-16)



#### **Youtube Videos**

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