

13.3 Degrees to Radians

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Goal: Covert degree to radians and radians to degrees.

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So far, you have measured angles in degrees. You can also measure angles in *radians*.

A **radian** is a unit of angle measure based on arc length. Recall from geometry that an *arc* is an unbroken part of a circle. If a central angle θ in a circle of radius r , intercepts an arc of length r , then the measure of θ is defined as 1 radian.

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The circumference of a circle of radius r is $2\pi r$. Therefore, an angle representing one complete clockwise rotation measures 2π radians. You can use the fact that 2π radians is equivalent to 360° to convert between radians and degrees.

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To convert 60 degrees into radians:

Step 1: Set up the multiplication using the conversion factor.
 Step 2: Reduce your fraction.
 Step 3: Multiply.

$$\frac{60^\circ}{1} \cdot \frac{\pi}{180^\circ} = \frac{60\pi}{180} = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{3}}$$

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To convert $\frac{3\pi}{4}$ radians into degrees:

Step 1: Set up the multiplication using the conversion factor.
 Step 2: Reduce your fraction.
 Step 3: Multiply.

$$\frac{3\pi}{4} \cdot \frac{180}{\pi} = \frac{540\pi}{4\pi} = \boxed{135^\circ}$$

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Convert the following:

1. $80^\circ \cdot \frac{\pi}{180^\circ} = \frac{80\pi}{180}$ 2. $-225^\circ \cdot \frac{\pi}{180} = -\frac{225\pi}{180}$

5 in $\frac{1 \text{ ft}}{12 \text{ in}}$ $\frac{4\pi}{9}$ $-\frac{5\pi}{4}$

3. 315° 4. 1080°

$315 \cdot \frac{\pi}{180} = \frac{7\pi}{4}$ 6π

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Convert the following:

5. $\frac{2\pi}{3}$ radians 6. 4π radians

$\frac{2\pi}{3} \cdot \frac{180}{\pi} = \frac{360}{3} = 120^\circ$ $\frac{4\pi}{1} \cdot \frac{180}{\pi} = 720^\circ$

10.2

7. $\frac{2\pi}{9}$ radians 8. 6π radians

$\frac{2\pi}{9} \cdot \frac{180}{\pi} = \frac{360}{9} = 40^\circ$ 1080°

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Assignment:

Worksheet

$\frac{\pi}{3}$ 80°

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