

Pythagoras Theorem

POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. **Pythagoras Theorem :** In a right-angled triangle the square on the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of squares on the other two sides.

In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$

$$\therefore AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2.$$

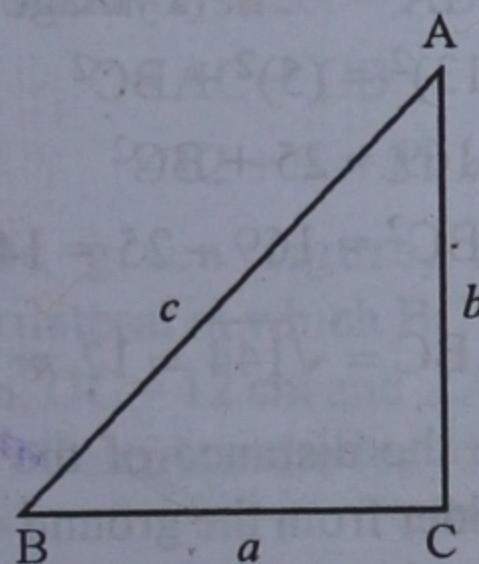
2. **Converse of Pythagoras Theorem :** In a triangle, if the square of one side is equal to the sum of the square of other two sides, then the triangle is a right-angled.

EXERCISE 13

- Q. 1. In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle C = 90^\circ$

If $BC = a$, $AC = b$ and $AB = c$, find :

- (i) c when $a = 8$ cm and $b = 6$ cm.
- (ii) a when $c = 25$ cm and $b = 7$ cm.
- (iii) b when $c = 13$ cm and $a = 5$ cm.



Sol. In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle C = 90^\circ$

$$\therefore c^2 = a^2 + b^2 \quad (\text{Pythagoras Theorem})$$

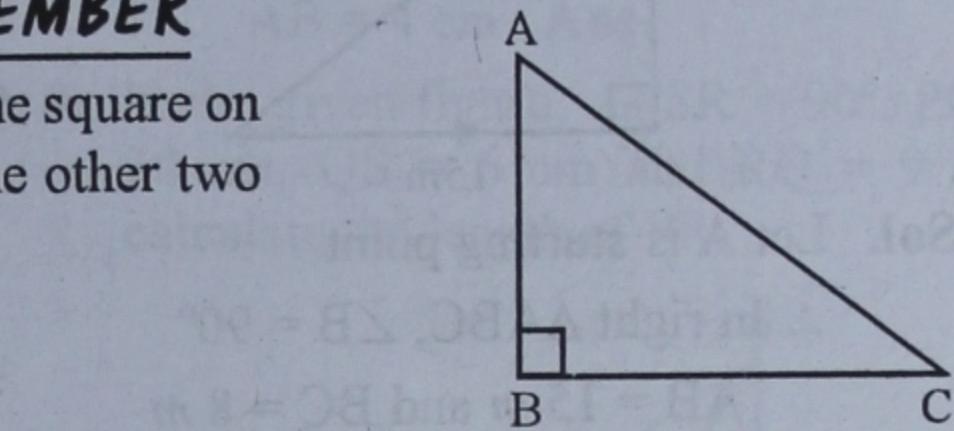
- (i) If $a = 8$ cm, $b = 6$ cm, then

$$\begin{aligned} c^2 &= a^2 + b^2 = (8)^2 + (6)^2 \\ &= 64 + 36 = 100 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore c = \sqrt{100} = 10 \text{ cm.}$$

- (ii) $c = 25$ cm, $b = 7$ cm

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But } c^2 &= a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow (25)^2 = a^2 + (7)^2 \\ &\Rightarrow 625 = a^2 + 49 \Rightarrow a^2 = 625 - 49 \\ &\Rightarrow a^2 = 576 \Rightarrow c = \sqrt{576} = 24 \text{ cm.} \end{aligned}$$



$$(iii) \quad c = 13 \text{ cm}, a = 5 \text{ cm}$$

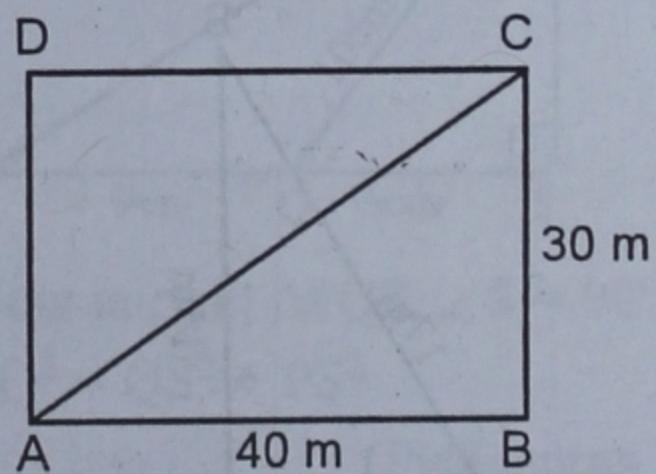
$$\text{But } c^2 = a^2 + b^2 \Rightarrow (13)^2 = (5)^2 + b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 169 = 25 + b^2$$

$$\Rightarrow b^2 = 169 - 25 = 144$$

$$\therefore b = \sqrt{144} = 12 \text{ cm.}$$

- Q. 2. A rectangular field is 40 m long and 30 m broad. Find the length of its diagonal.



- Sol. In rectangular field ABCD, $AB = 40$ m and $BC = 30$ m

AC is its diagonal.

$$\therefore \text{In } \triangle ABC, \angle B = 90^\circ$$

$$AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

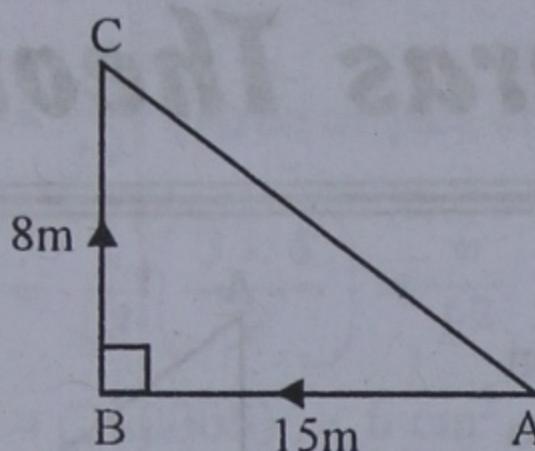
$$= (40)^2 + (30)^2 = 1600 + 900$$

$$= 2500$$

$$\therefore AC = \sqrt{2500} = 50 \text{ m}$$

Hence diagonal $AC = 50$ m Ans.

- Q. 3.** A man goes 15 m due west and then 8 m due north. How far is he from the starting point?



Sol. Let A is starting point.

∴ In right $\triangle ABC$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$

$AB = 15 \text{ m}$ and $BC = 8 \text{ m}$

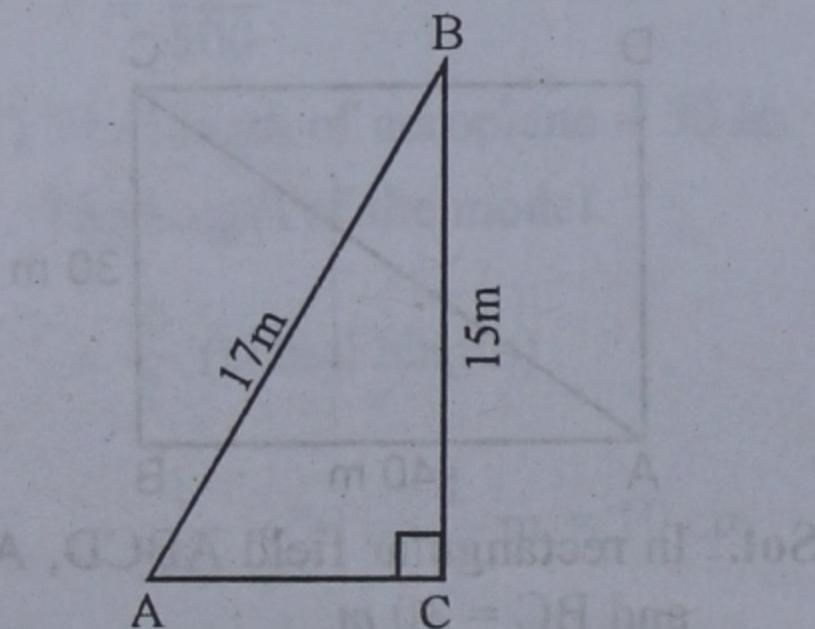
$$\therefore AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2 \quad (\text{Pythagoras Theorem})$$

$$\Rightarrow AC^2 = (15)^2 + (8)^2 = 225 + 64 = 289$$

$$\therefore AC = \sqrt{289} = 17 \text{ m}$$

Hence he is 17 m far from the starting point.

- Q. 4.** A ladder 17 m long reaches the window of a building 15 m above the ground. Find the distance of the foot of the ladder from the building.



Sol. Let AB the ladder, CB be the building and B is window, then

$AB = 17 \text{ m}$, $BC = 15 \text{ m}$

Now in right $\triangle ACB$, $\angle C = 90^\circ$

$$AB^2 = AC^2 + BC^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$\Rightarrow (17)^2 = AC^2 + (15)^2$$

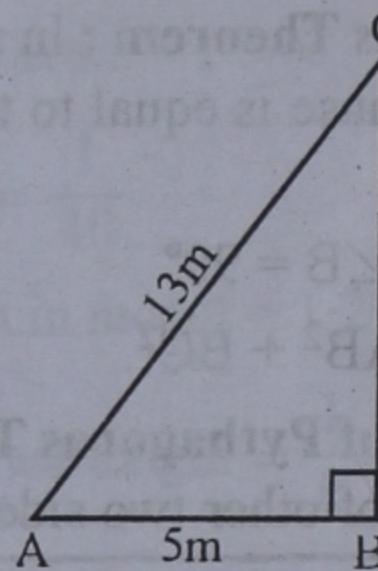
$$\Rightarrow 289 = AC^2 - 225$$

$$\Rightarrow AC^2 = 289 - 225 = 64 = (8)^2$$

$$\therefore AC = 8$$

Hence the distance of the foot of the ladder from the building = 8 m Ans.

- Q. 5.** A ladder 13 m long rests against a vertical wall. If the foot of the ladder is 5 m from the foot of the wall, find the distance of the other end of the ladder from the ground.



Sol. Let AC be the ladder, BC be the building and AB be the distance from the foot of the ladder from the building.

∴ $AB = 5 \text{ m}$, $AC = 13 \text{ m}$.

Now in right $\triangle ABC$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$

$$AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$\Rightarrow (13)^2 = (5)^2 + BC^2$$

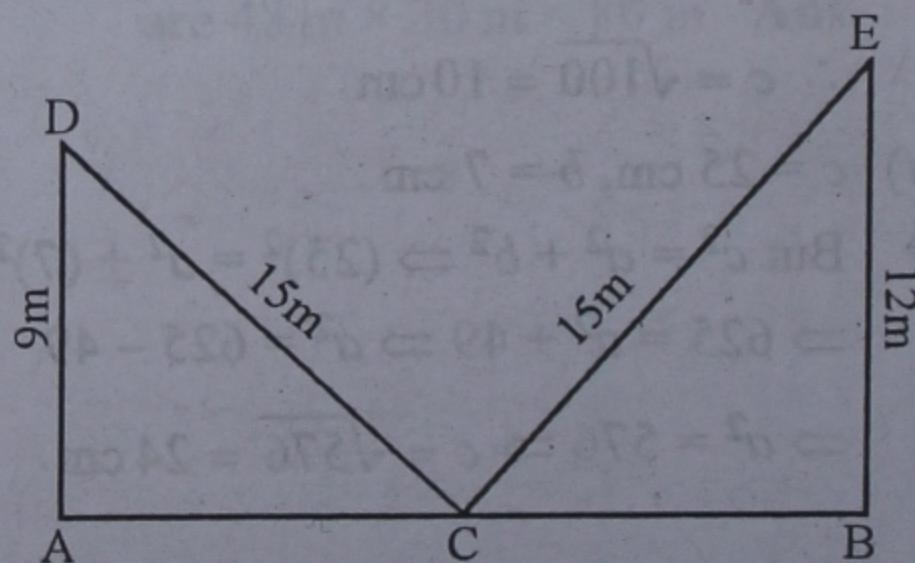
$$\Rightarrow 169 = 25 + BC^2$$

$$\Rightarrow BC^2 = 169 - 25 = 144$$

$$\therefore BC = \sqrt{144} = 12 \text{ m}$$

Hence the distance of the other end of the ladder from the ground = 12 m Ans.

- Q. 6.** A ladder 15 m long reaches a window which is 9 m above the ground on one side of the street. Keeping its foot at the same point, the ladder is turned to the other side of the street to reach a window 12 m high. Find the width of the street.



Sol. Let CD and CE be two positions of the ladder, D is the window on one side and E is the window on the other side and AB be the width of the street.

$$\therefore CD = CE = 15 \text{ m}, AD = 9 \text{ m}, \\ \text{and } BE = 12 \text{ m}$$

Now in right $\triangle CAD$, by Pythagoras Theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} CD^2 &= AC^2 + AD^2 \\ \Rightarrow (15)^2 &= AC^2 + (9)^2 \\ \Rightarrow 225 &= AC^2 + 81 \\ \Rightarrow AC^2 &= 225 - 81 = 144 = (12)^2 \\ \therefore AC &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

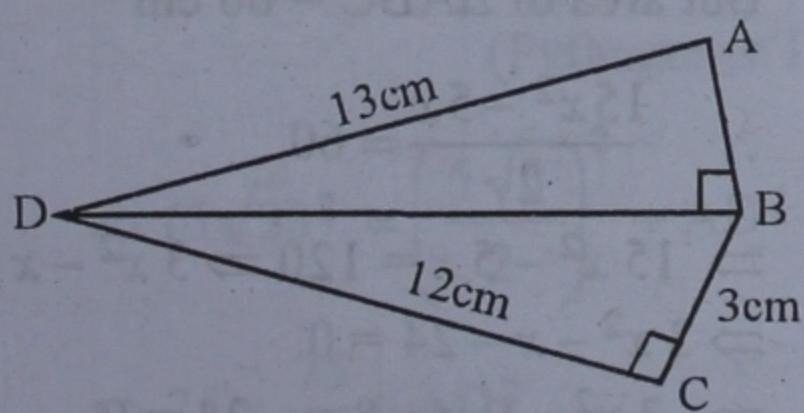
Similarly, in right $\triangle CBE$,

$$\begin{aligned} CE^2 &= CB^2 + BE^2 \\ \Rightarrow (15)^2 &= CB^2 + (12)^2 \\ \Rightarrow 225 &= CB^2 + 144 \\ \Rightarrow CB^2 &= 225 - 144 = 81 = (9)^2 \\ \therefore CB &= 9 \end{aligned}$$

Now width of street = AB

$$\begin{aligned} &= AC + CB \\ &= 12 + 9 = 21 \text{ m} \quad \text{Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

Q. 7. In the given figure, ABCD is a quadrilateral in which BC = 3 cm, AD = 13 cm, DC = 12 cm and $\angle ABD = \angle BCD = 90^\circ$. Calculate the length of AB.



Sol. In quadrilateral ABCD,
 $BC = 3 \text{ cm}$, $AD = 13 \text{ cm}$, $DC = 12 \text{ cm}$
 $\angle ABD = \angle BCD = 90^\circ$

In right $\triangle BCD$,

$$BD^2 = CB + CD^2$$

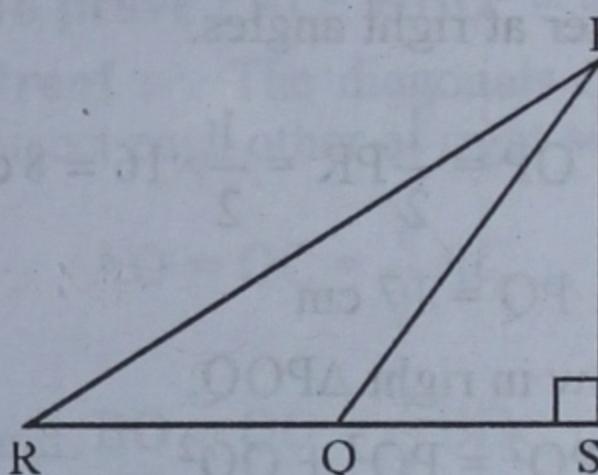
(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$= (12)^2 + (3)^2 = 144 + 9 = 153$$

Similarly, in right $\triangle ABD$,

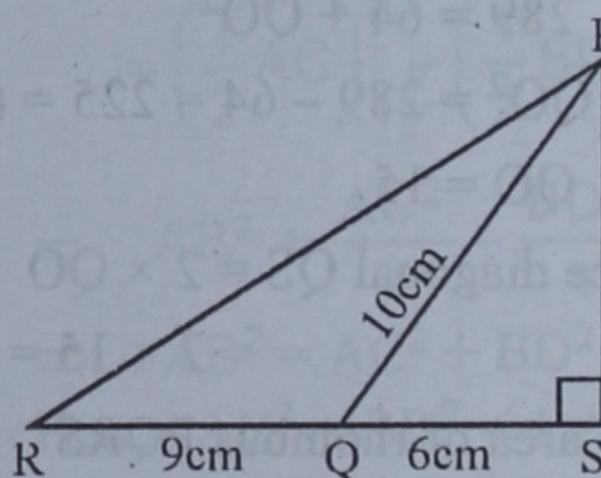
$$\begin{aligned} AD^2 &= BD^2 + AB^2 \\ \Rightarrow (13)^2 &= 153 + AB^2 \\ \Rightarrow 169 &= 153 + AB^2 \\ \Rightarrow AB^2 &= 169 - 153 = 16 = (4)^2 \\ \therefore AB &= 4 \text{ cm} \quad \text{Ans.} \end{aligned}$$

Q. 8. In the given figure, $\angle PSR = 90^\circ$, PQ = 10 cm, QS = 6 cm and RQ = 9 cm, calculate the length of PR.



Sol. In the figure,

$$QS = 6 \text{ cm}, RQ = 9 \text{ cm}, PQ = 10 \text{ cm}.$$



Now in right $\triangle PQS$, $\angle S = 90^\circ$

$$PQ^2 = QS^2 + PS^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (10)^2 &= (6)^2 + PS^2 \Rightarrow 100 = 36 + PS^2 \\ \Rightarrow PS^2 &= 100 - 36 = 64 = (8)^2 \\ \therefore PS &= 8 \text{ cm} \end{aligned}$$

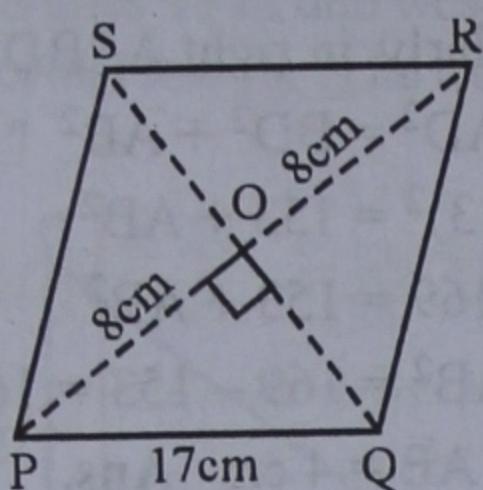
Similarly, in right $\triangle PRS$,

$$\begin{aligned} PR^2 &= RS^2 + PS^2 = (RQ + QS)^2 + PS^2 \\ &= (9 + 6)^2 + (8)^2 = (15)^2 + (8)^2 \\ &= 225 + 64 = 289 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore PR = \sqrt{289} = 17$$

Hence PR = 17 cm Ans.

Q. 9. In a rhombus PQRS, side PQ = 17 cm and diagonal PR = 16 cm. Calculate the area of the rhombus.



Sol. In rhombus PQRS, $PQ = 17 \text{ cm}$ and diagonal $PR = 16 \text{ cm}$.

\therefore The diagonals of a rhombus bisect each other at right angles.

$$\therefore OP = \frac{1}{2} PR = \frac{1}{2} \times 16 = 8 \text{ cm}$$

$$PQ = 17 \text{ cm}$$

Now in right $\triangle POQ$,

$$PQ^2 = PO^2 + QO^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$\Rightarrow (17)^2 = (8)^2 + QO^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 289 = 64 + QO^2$$

$$\Rightarrow QO^2 = 289 - 64 = 225 = (15)^2$$

$$QO = 15$$

$$\text{Hence diagonal } QS = 2 \times QO$$

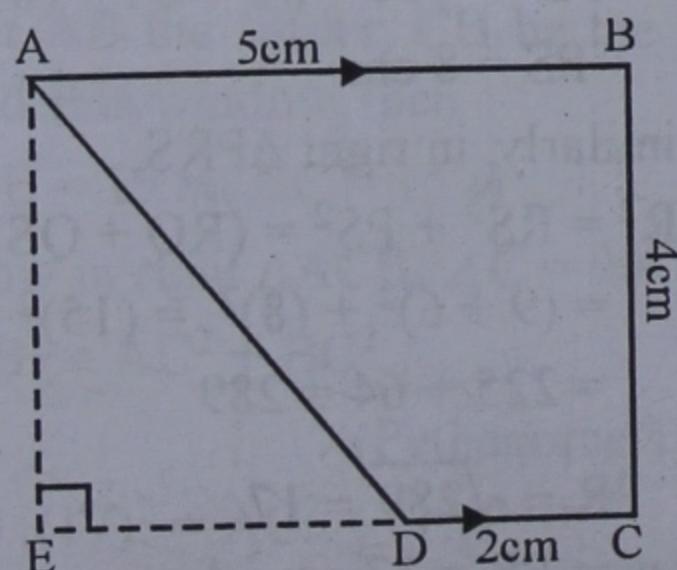
$$= 2 \times 15 = 30 \text{ cm}$$

Now area of rhombus PQRS

$$= \frac{1}{2} PR \times QS = \frac{1}{2} \times 16 \times 30 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$= 240 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ Ans.}$$

Q. 10. From the given figure, find the area of trapezium ABCD.



Sol. In trapezium ABCD,

$$AB \parallel CD$$

$$AB = 5 \text{ cm}, CD = 2 \text{ cm}, BC = 4 \text{ cm}$$

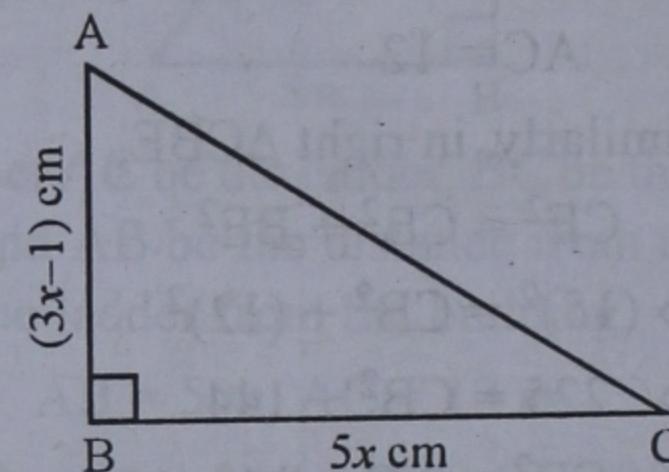
$$\text{Area of trapezium} = \frac{1}{2}$$

(Sum of parallel sides) height

$$= \frac{1}{2} (2 + 5) \times 4$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times 7 \times 4 = 14 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ Ans.}$$

Q. 11. The sides of a right triangle containing the right angle are $(5x) \text{ cm}$ and $(3x - 1) \text{ cm}$. If the area of the triangle be 60 cm^2 , calculate the length of the sides of the triangle.



Sol. In right $\triangle ABC$,

$$\angle B = 90^\circ, AB = 3x - 1, BC = 5x$$

$$\text{Now area of } \triangle ABC = \frac{1}{2} \times AB \times BC$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times (3x - 1) 5x$$

$$= \frac{15x^2 - 5x}{2}$$

$$\text{But area of } \triangle ABC = 60 \text{ cm}^2$$

$$\therefore \frac{15x^2 - 5x}{2} = 60$$

$$\Rightarrow 15x^2 - 5x = 120 \Rightarrow 3x^2 - x = 24$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x^2 - x - 24 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x^2 - 9x + 8x - 24 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3x(x - 3) + 8(x - 3) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 3)(3x + 8) = 0$$

$$\text{Either } x - 3 = 0, \text{ then } x = 3$$

$$\text{or } 3x + 8 = 0, \text{ then } 3x = -8 \Rightarrow x = -\frac{8}{3}$$

But it is not possible.

$$\therefore x = 3$$

$$\text{Now } AB = 3x - 1 = 3 \times 3 - 1 \\ = 9 - 1 = 8 \text{ cm}$$

$$BC = 5x = 5 \times 3 = 15 \text{ cm}$$

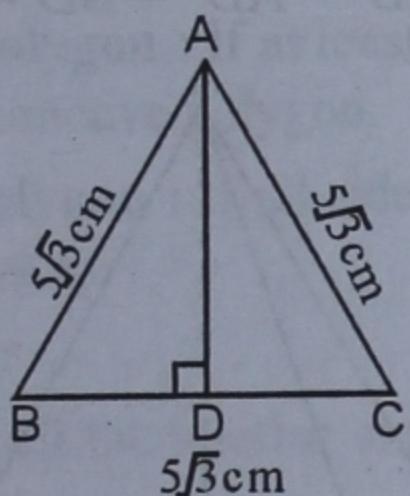
$$\text{But } AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$= (8)^2 + (15)^2 = 64 + 225 \\ = 289 = (17)^2$$

$$\therefore AC = 17 \text{ cm Ans.}$$

- Q. 12.** Find the altitude of an equilateral triangle of side $5\sqrt{3}$ cm.



Sol. In $\triangle ABC$,

$$AB = BC = CA = 5\sqrt{3} \text{ cm}$$

$\therefore AD \perp BC$.

\therefore It bisects BC at D.

$$\therefore BD = \frac{1}{2} BC = \frac{1}{2} \times 5\sqrt{3} = \frac{5\sqrt{3}}{2} \text{ cm}$$

Now in right $\triangle ABD$, $\angle D = 90^\circ$,

$$AB^2 = BD^2 + AD^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

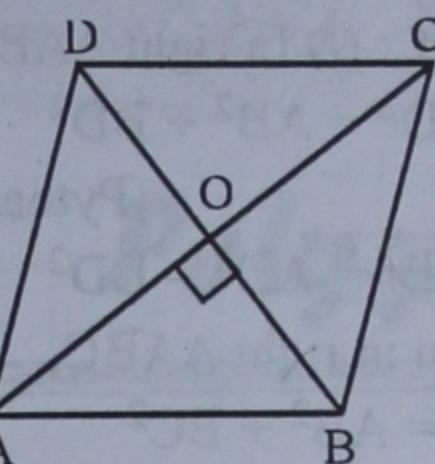
$$\Rightarrow (5\sqrt{3})^2 = \left(\frac{5\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)^2 + AD^2$$

$$\Rightarrow 75 = \frac{75}{4} + AD^2$$

$$\Rightarrow AD^2 = 75 - \frac{75}{4} = \frac{300 - 75}{4} = \frac{225}{4}$$

$$\therefore AD = \sqrt{\frac{225}{4}} = \frac{15}{2} = 7.5 \text{ cm Ans.}$$

- Q. 13.** In rhombus ABCD, prove that $AC^2 + BD^2 = 4 AB^2$.



Sol. Given : In rhombus ABCD, AC and BD are its diagonals which intersect each other at O.

To prove : $AC^2 + BD^2 = 4 AB^2$

Proof : \because The diagonals of a rhombus bisect each other at right angles.

$$\therefore AO = OC = \frac{1}{2} AC$$

$$\text{and } BO = OD = \frac{1}{2} BD$$

Now in right $\triangle AOB$

$$AB^2 = AO^2 + BO^2$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{2} AC\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2} BD\right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow AB^2 = \frac{AC^2}{4} + \frac{BD^2}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 AB^2 = AC^2 + BD^2$$

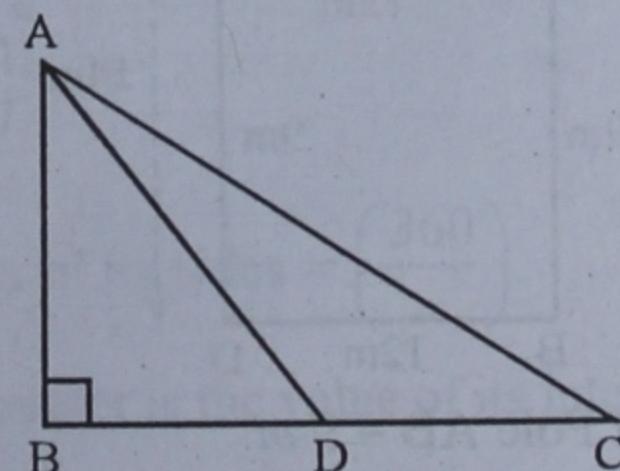
Hence $AC^2 + BD^2 = 4 AB^2$

Q.E.D.

- Q. 14.** In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$ and D is the mid-point of BC. Prove that :

$$(i) AC^2 = AD^2 + 3 CD^2$$

$$(ii) BC^2 = 4(AD^2 - AB^2)$$



Sol. Given : In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$, D is mid-point of BC. AD is joined.

To prove :

$$(i) AC^2 = AD^2 + 3 CD^2$$

$$(ii) BC^2 = 4(AD^2 - AB^2)$$

Proof : (i) In right $\triangle ABD$, $\angle B = 90^\circ$

$$\therefore AD^2 = AB^2 + BD^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$\Rightarrow AB^2 = AD^2 - BD^2 \quad \dots(i)$$

Again in right $\triangle ABC$,

$$AC^2 = AB^2 + BC^2$$

$$= AD^2 - BD^2 + (BD + DC)^2$$

[From (i)]

$$= AD^2 - BD^2 + (2 CD)^2$$

($\because D$ is mid-point of BC)

$$= AD^2 - CD^2 + 4 CD^2$$

$$= AD^2 + 3 CD^2$$

(ii) From (i),

$$AD^2 = AB^2 + BD^2$$

$$\Rightarrow AD^2 = AB^2 + \left(\frac{1}{2} BC\right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow AD^2 = AB^2 + \frac{BC^2}{4}$$

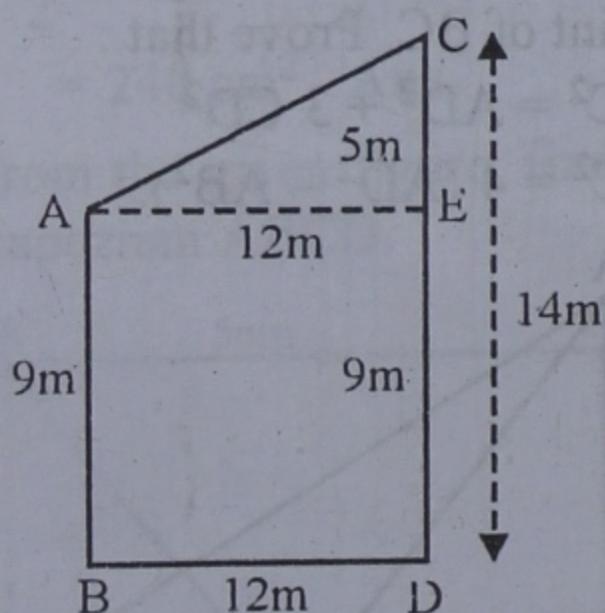
$$\Rightarrow 4 AD^2 = 4 AB^2 + BC^2$$

$$\Rightarrow BC^2 = 4 AD^2 - 4 AB^2$$

$$\Rightarrow BC^2 = 4(AD^2 - AB^2)$$

Hence proved.

- Q. 15.** Two poles of height 9 m and 14 m stand vertically on a plane ground. If the distance between their feet is 12 m, find the distance between their tops.



Sol. Let Pole AB = 9 m

Pole CD = 14 m

Distance between them (BD) = 12 m

From A, draw AE \parallel BD

then AB = ED = 9 m

$$CE = CD - ED = 14 - 9 = 5 \text{ m}$$

$$\therefore AE = BD = 12 \text{ m}$$

Now in right $\triangle AEC$, $\angle E = 90^\circ$

$$AC^2 = AE^2 + CE^2$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

$$= (12)^2 + (5)^2$$

$$= 144 + 25 = 169 = (13)^2$$

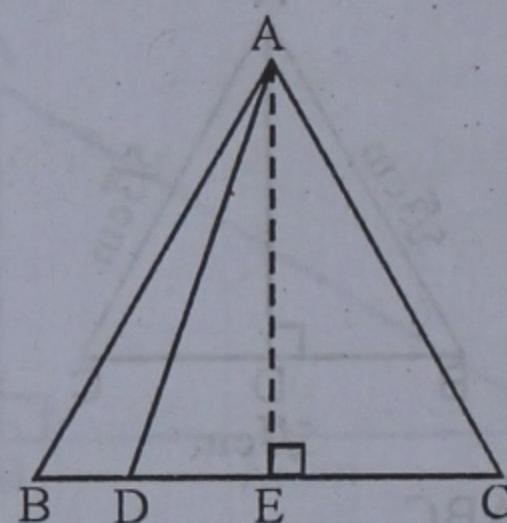
$$\therefore AC = 13$$

Hence distance between their tops

$$= 13 \text{ m} \quad \text{Ans.}$$

- Q. 16.** In $\triangle ABC$, if $AB = AC$ and D is a point on BC. Prove that

$$AB^2 - AD^2 = BD \times CD.$$



Sol. Given : In $\triangle ABC$, $AB = AC$

D is a point on BC.

To prove : $AB^2 - AD^2 = BD \times CD$

Const : Draw AE \perp BC

Proof : Now in right $\triangle AEB$ and $\triangle AEC$

Side AE = AE (Common)

Hyp. AB = AC (Given)

$\therefore \triangle ABE \cong \triangle ACE$

(R.H.S. axiom of congruency)

$\therefore BE = EC$ (C.P.C.T.)

Now in right $\triangle ABE$,

$$AB^2 = AE^2 + BE^2 \quad \dots(i)$$

(Pythagoras Theorem)

Similarly in right $\triangle ADE$

$$AD^2 = AE^2 + DE^2 \quad \dots(ii)$$

Subtracting (ii) from (i)

$$AB^2 - AD^2 = AE^2 + BE^2 - AE^2 - DE^2$$

$$= BE^2 - DE^2$$

$$= (BE + ED)(BE - ED)$$

$$= (CE + ED)(BE - ED) \quad [BE = EC]$$

$$= CD \times BD$$

$$= BD \times CD$$

Hence proved.