

Geometry 4.8

Position and label triangles for use in coordinate proofs

Write coordinate proofs

proof

coordinate proof

X position can make the problem easier or harder

→ make good choices: coordinate axes etc. $(0,0)$

→ use as few variables as possible
(center on axis - sometimes)

calculate slope, distance, etc. using coordinates, m.p.

show that corresponding parts are congruent, parallel, etc.

Placement on the coordinate plane:

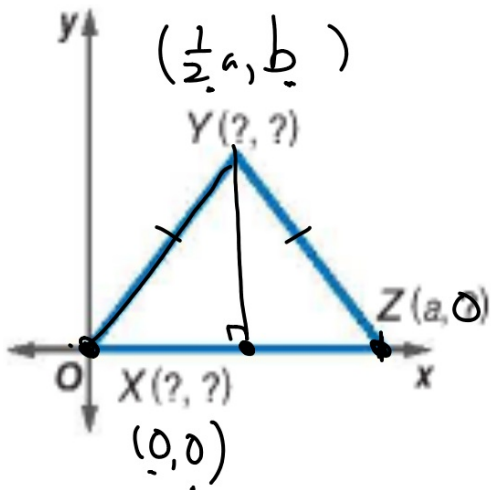
How to make it as complicated as possible?

How to make it as simple as possible?

Example 2 Identify Missing Coordinates

Name the missing coordinates of isosceles triangle XYZ.

Hint: Use the fewest variables possible.

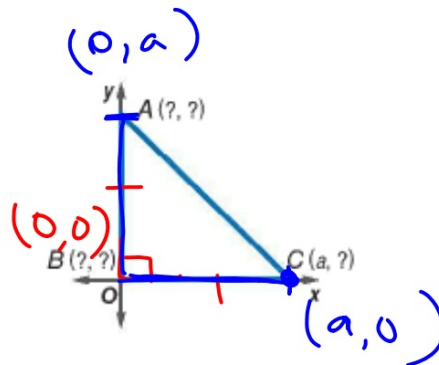


$$\text{Slope } XY = \frac{(b-0)}{(\frac{1}{2}a-0)} = \frac{b}{\frac{1}{2}a} = \frac{2b}{a}$$

Guided Practice

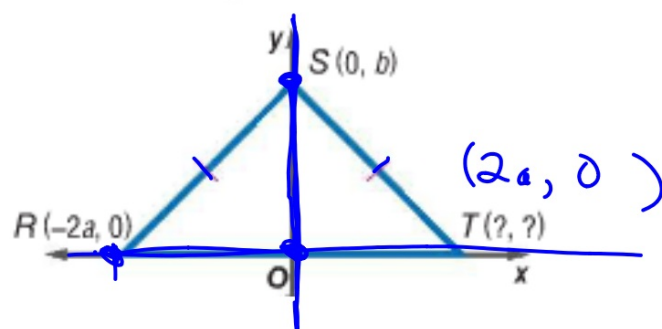
2. Name the missing coordinates of isosceles right triangle ABC.

$$\begin{aligned} AC &= \sqrt{a^2 + a^2} \\ &= \sqrt{2a^2} \\ &= a\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

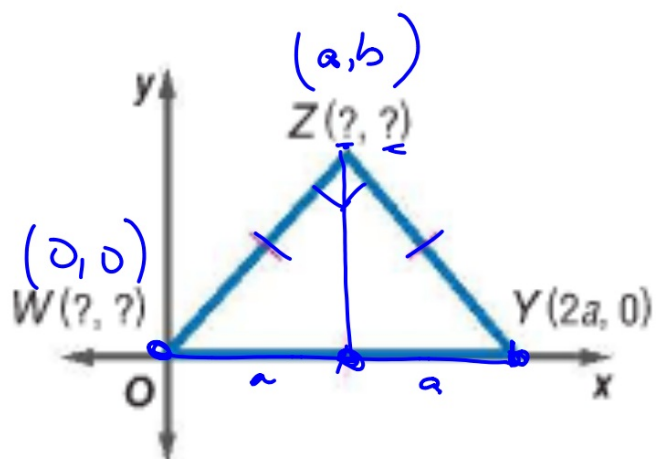


Name the missing coordinate(s) of each !

3.

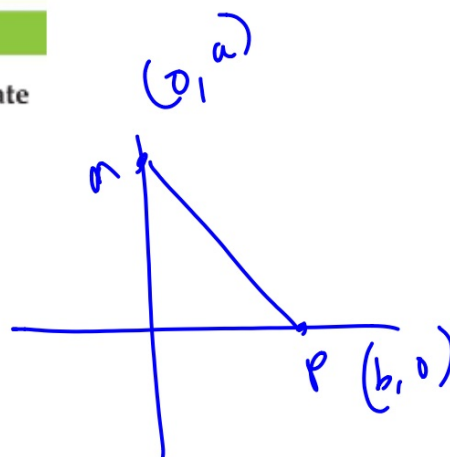
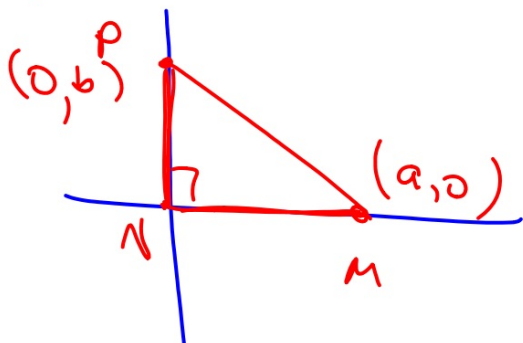


4.



Example 1 Position and Label a Triangle

Position and label right triangle MNP on the coordinate plane so that leg $\overline{MN}$ is a units long and leg $\overline{NP}$ is b units long.



Suggestion:

Put one vertex at $(0,0)$

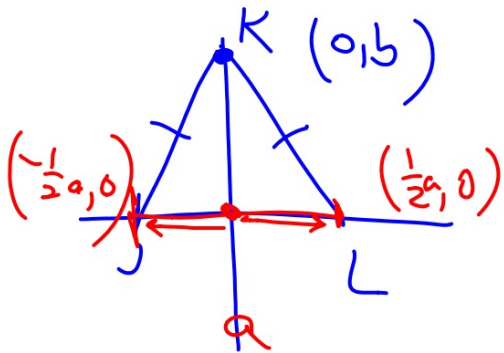
or

Center the triangle on an axis

(It depends on what you are doing next...)

Guided Practice

1. Position and label isosceles triangle JKL on the coordinate plane so that its base $\overline{JL}$ is a units long, vertex K is on the y -axis, and the height of the triangle is b units.

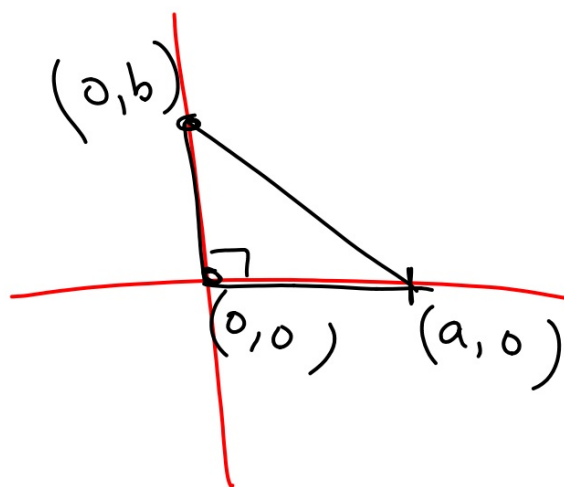
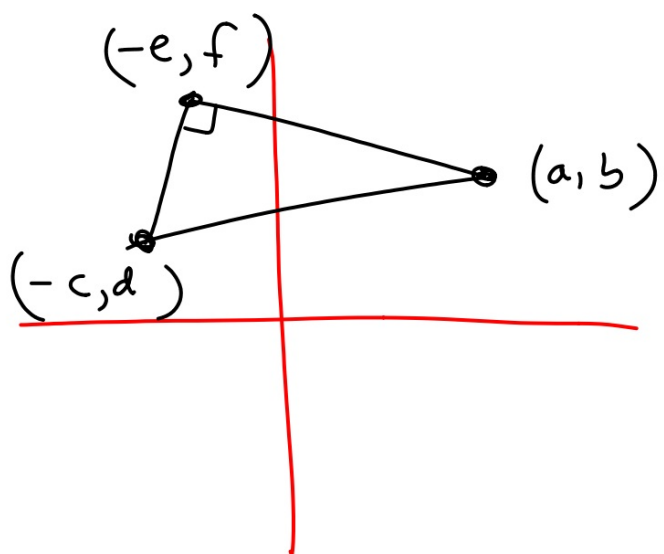


p 303

KeyConcept Placing Triangles on Coordinate Plane *(cos. or equi)*



- Step 1** Use the origin as a vertex or center of the triangle.
- Step 2** Place at least one side of a triangle on an axis.
- Step 3** Keep the triangle within the first quadrant if possible.
- Step 4** Use coordinates that make computations as simple as possible.

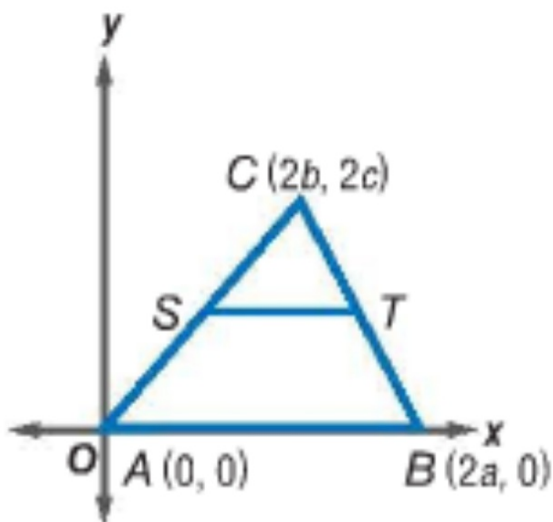


Example 3 Write a Coordinate Proof



Write a coordinate proof to show that a line segment joining the midpoints of two sides of a triangle is parallel to the third side.

Show that slope of ST = slope of AB



Whiteboards



ARGUMENTS Write a coordinate proof for each statement.

19. The segments joining the base vertices to the midpoints of the legs of an isosceles triangle are congruent.