

Angles in regular polygon

Starter

1. **(Review of last lesson)** A dodecagon has 5 interior angles each measuring 140° and 4 interior angles each measuring 160° . The remaining angles are all equal — find the size of one of the remaining angles.

N.B. A regular polygon is one whose sides are all equal in length and whose angles are all equal.

2. The sum of the exterior angles of any polygon is 360° .
Write down the formula for the size of one exterior angle of an n -sided regular polygon.

Working:

An n -sided regular polygon has n equal angles.

$$\text{Size of one exterior angle of an } n\text{-sided regular polygon} = \frac{360^\circ}{n}$$

Notes

Here are the complete facts and formulae for polygons and regular polygons:

$$\text{Exterior angle} + \text{Interior angle} = 180^\circ$$

$$\text{Sum of interior angles of an } n\text{-sided polygon} = 180^\circ(n - 2)$$

$$\text{Size of each interior angle of an } n\text{-sided regular polygon} = \frac{180^\circ(n - 2)}{n}$$

$$\text{Sum of exterior angles of any polygon is } 360^\circ$$

$$\text{Size of each exterior angle of an } n\text{-sided regular polygon} = \frac{360^\circ}{n}$$

E.g. 1 Find the size of each exterior angle for:

(a) an 11-sided regular polygon

(b) a 17-sided regular polygon.

Working: (a) Size of each interior angle of an 11-sided regular polygon = $\frac{360^\circ}{n}$

$$= \frac{360^\circ}{11}$$

$$\approx 32.7^\circ$$

E.g. 2 How many sides does the regular polygon have given that each exterior angle is:

(a) 24°

(b) 8°

Working: (a) **Each exterior angle = $\frac{360^\circ}{n}$:**

$$24^\circ = \frac{360^\circ}{n}$$

$$n = \frac{360^\circ}{24^\circ} = 15 \text{ sides}$$

E.g. 3 How many sides does the regular polygon have given that each *interior* angle is:

(a) 140°

(b) 170°

Working: (a) Exterior angle = $180^\circ - 140^\circ = 40^\circ$

$$\text{Each exterior angle} = \frac{360^\circ}{n} : 40^\circ = \frac{360^\circ}{n}$$

$$n = \frac{360^\circ}{40^\circ} = 9 \text{ sides}$$

E.g. 4 Mary claims that she has found a regular polygon whose exterior angles are all 27° . Is she correct? Show your working.

E.g. 5 Abdul claims that he has found a regular polygon whose interior angles are four times the size of the exterior angle. If the polygon exists, how many sides does it have?

Video: [Angles in polygons](#)

[Solutions to Starter and E.g.s](#)

Exercise

9-1 class textbook: p68 M3.4 Qu 1-8 even, 9-16

A*-G class textbook: p61 M3.4 Qu 1-15

9-1 homework book: p22 M3.4 Qu 1-12

A*-G homework book: p16 M3.4 Qu 1-9

Summary

Exterior angle + Interior angle = 180°

Sum of *interior* angles of an n -sided polygon = $180^\circ(n - 2)$

Size of each *interior* angle of an n -sided *regular* polygon = $\frac{180^\circ(n - 2)}{n}$

Sum of *exterior* angles of any polygon is 360°

Size of each *exterior* angle of an n -sided *regular* polygon = $\frac{360^\circ}{n}$

n-sided polygon	Sum of angles	Size of one angle in a regular polygon
Interior angles	$180(n - 2)$	$\frac{180(n - 2)}{n}$
Exterior angles	360°	$\frac{360}{n}$