

Pythagorean Links

revised 6/1/2009

Some sites that show the Pythagorean Theorem online:

sunsite.ubc.ca/LivingMathematics/V001N01/UBCExamples/Pythagoras/pythagoras.html

My old favorite. It's got next and back buttons so you can go over and over difficult parts. People say Euclid's proofs (this is one of them) are rather hard just written down, but this one is very clear in java.

www.nadn.navy.mil/MathDept/mdm/pyth.html

A nice, little animation with no yada at all. I made a PowerPoint slideshow out of it—and put in plenty of yada that shows how to construct the 4 congruent quadrilaterals that make the proof work. (I think it would be a good project for able high school students (or aspiring teachers) to take one of the 69 or so different proofs and make a PowerPoints out of it.) You can access mine at

www.soesd.k12.or.us/files/pythagorean_theorem.ppt

www.sunsite.ubc.ca/DigitalMathArchive/Euclid/java/html/pythagoras.html

Nice and short, with java illustration and classification of proofs into three classes:

- proofs that use shears
- proofs that use translations
- proofs that use similarity

(My new fave because it organizes and explains AND has many nice java animations which you can click to pause.)

www.jimloy.com/geometry/pythag.htm

No animations, but it's clear and straightforward (at least the first two!) and detailed enough to make it easy to understand.

www.mathkang.org/swf/pythagore2.html

In French, but the animations are so clear, it's very easy to understand.

www.jensign.com/JavaScience/www/pythagoras/

"two of the better known geometrical proofs from antiquity..."

www.ies.co.jp/math/java/geo/pythagoras.html

19 very well done applets, showing a great variety of proofs

www.walter-fendt.de/m11e/pyththeorem.htm

This one makes a very ingenious use of a unit circle.

www.cut-the-knot.org/pythagoras/index.shtml

This one is from cut-the-knot.org and goes into quite a bit of detail, with plenty of drawings and explanations Copiously documented and illustrated (often in color). Contains 69 different proofs.

www.frontiernet.net/~imaging/pythagorean.html

This one steps you through a proof interactively with plenty of choices and explanations. It looks challenging but do-able.

users.rcn.com/mwhitney.massed/pythag2/pythagoras2.html

Good illustration (no java) of proof by subdividing the squares.

a couple of bios of the man himself

www-history.mcs.st-and.ac.uk/~history/Mathematicians/Pythagoras.html

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pythagoras>