

Talk Math 2 Me

Bring Your Hard Hat ‘Cause We’re Doin’ Some Constructions

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12:00pm–1:00pm

Abstract

Before the invention of calculators, ancient Greek mathematicians relied on an already known mathematics to calculate sums, differences, products, ratios and square roots. That math is known as geometry, or more specifically, Euclidean geometry. In the field of geometry, finding a representation for a number like $\sqrt{2}$ can be done by only using pencil, paper, a compass and a straight-edge.

In this presentation, we will discuss the history of the compass-and-straightedge constructions, as well as, demonstrate many types of constructions. Some of these constructions will include adding and subtracting segments, proving the sum of the angles of a triangle is indeed 180° , and dividing a line into n equal segments without measuring it first.

You may also want to bring your compass and ruler along with your hard hat.