

### 7.4 Similar Figures

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**Learn** to use proportions to find missing measures in similar figures.

Matching sides of two or more polygons are called **corresponding sides**, and matching angles are called **corresponding angles**.

$\frac{2}{6} = \frac{3}{9}$

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**Similar** figures have the same shape but not necessarily the same size.

**Similar Figures**

Two figures are similar if

- the measures of the corresponding angles are equal
- the ratios of the lengths of the corresponding sides are proportional

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The two triangles are similar. Find the missing length  $y$  and the measure of  $\angle D$ .

$m\angle D = 70^\circ$

$\frac{100}{200} = \frac{111}{y}$

$100y = 19,980$

$y = 222$

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The two triangles are similar. Find the missing length  $y$  and the measure of  $\angle B$ .

$m\angle B = 65^\circ$

$\frac{50}{100} = \frac{52}{y}$

$50y = 5200$

$y = 104$

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This reduction is similar to a picture that Katie painted. The height of the actual painting is 54 centimeters. What is the width of the actual painting?

Draw a diagram to represent the situation. Use the corresponding sides to write a proportion.

$\frac{2}{54} = \frac{3}{w}$

$2w = 162$

$w = 81 \text{ cm}$

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This reduction is similar to a picture that Marty designed. The height of the actual picture is 39 inches. What is the width of the actual picture?

Draw a diagram to represent the situation. Use the corresponding sides to write a proportion.

$$\frac{\text{Act}}{\text{Red}} = \frac{W}{4} \Rightarrow \frac{39}{3} = \frac{W}{4}$$

$$\frac{39}{3} = \frac{W}{4}$$

$$\frac{13}{1} = \frac{W}{4}$$

$$13 \cdot 4 = W$$

$$52 = W$$

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**Lesson Quiz**  
These two triangles are similar.

- Find the missing length  $x$ .  

$$\frac{3x}{3} = \frac{90}{3} \Rightarrow x = 30$$
- Find the measure of  $\angle J$ .  

$$m\angle J = 36.9$$
- Find the missing length  $y$ .  

$$\frac{18y}{18} = \frac{72}{18} \Rightarrow y = 4$$
- Find the measure of  $\angle P$ .  

$$m\angle P = 90$$

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5. Susan is making a wood deck from plans for an 8 ft by 10 ft deck. However, she is going to increase its size proportionally. If the length is to be 15 ft, what will the width be?

$$\frac{B}{L} = \frac{W}{10} \Rightarrow \frac{8}{15} = \frac{W}{10}$$

$$\frac{8}{15} = \frac{W}{10}$$

$$\frac{8}{15} \cdot 10 = W$$

$$\frac{80}{15} = W$$

$$5.33 = W$$

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HW: WORKSHEET!

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