

Section 1: Working with radians

Crucial points

- 1. Where possible, leave your answer in terms of π**
When an angle is a simple multiple or fraction of 180° , then leave your answers in terms of π .
- 2. You must know the notation for angles in radians**
When an angle is given as a multiple or fraction of π you can assume it is in radians.
Otherwise you write, say, 0.7 rads.
In some older textbooks 0.7 rads might be written as 0.7° .
- 3. Make sure that your calculator is in the right mode**
Remember when you want to work out, say, $\sin \frac{\pi}{3}$, make sure your calculator is in 'rad' mode.
- 4. Make sure that solutions to equations lie in the required range**
When you are solving a trigonometric equation make sure you check what range the solutions are to lie in and give all the solutions within that range.
If the range is given in radians, e.g. $0 \leq \theta \leq 2\pi$, then give your answers in radians. If the range is given in degrees, e.g. $0 \leq \theta \leq 360^\circ$, then give your answers in degrees.