

6.1

Use Properties of Tangents

Georgia
Performance
Standard(s)

MM2G3a,
MM2G3d

Your Notes

• Use properties of a tangent to a circle.

VOCABULARY

Circle

Center

Radius

Chord

Diameter

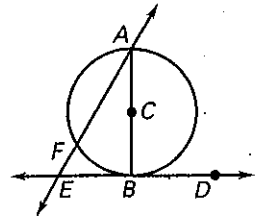
Secant

Tangent

Example 1 Identify special segments and lines

Tell whether the line, ray, or segment is best described as a *radius*, *chord*, *diameter*, *secant*, or *tangent* of $\odot C$.

- a. \overline{BC} b. \overleftrightarrow{EA} c. \overrightarrow{DE}



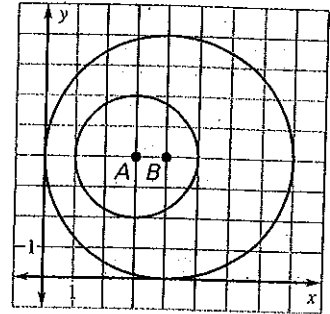
Solution

- a. \overline{BC} is a radius because C is the center and B is a point on the circle.
- b. \overleftrightarrow{EA} is a secant because it is a line that intersects the circle in two points.
- c. \overrightarrow{DE} is a tangent ray because it is contained in a line that intersects the circle in exactly one point.

Example 2 Find lengths in circles in a coordinate plane

Use the diagram to find the given lengths.

- Radius of $\odot A$
- Diameter of $\odot A$
- Radius of $\odot B$
- Diameter of $\odot B$



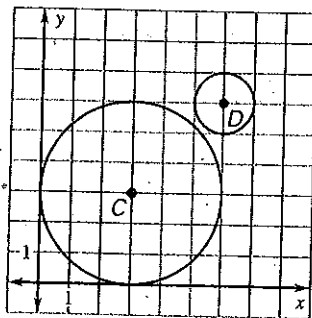
Solution

- The radius of $\odot A$ is 2 units.
- The diameter of $\odot A$ is 4 units.
- The radius of $\odot B$ is 4 units.
- The diameter of $\odot B$ is 8 units.

Checkpoint Complete the following exercises.

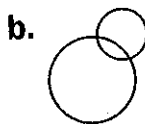
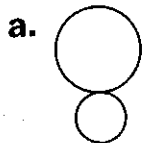
1. In Example 1, tell whether \overline{AB} is best described as a radius, chord, diameter, secant, or tangent. Explain.

2. Use the diagram to find (a) the radius of $\odot C$ and (b) the diameter of $\odot D$.



Example 3 Draw common tangents

Tell how many common tangents the circles have and draw them.



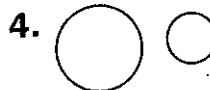
Solution

a. 3 common tangent(s)

b. 2 common tangent(s)

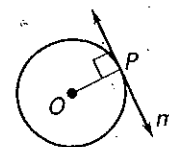
c. 1 common tangent(s)

✓ **Checkpoint** Tell how many common tangents the circles have and draw them.



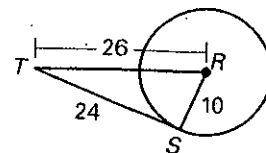
THEOREM 6.1

In a plane, a line is tangent to a circle if and only if the line is _____ to a radius of the circle at its endpoint on the circle.



Example 4 Verify a tangent to a circle

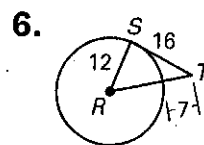
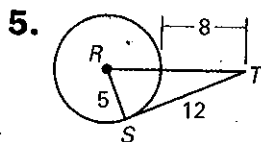
In the diagram, \overline{RS} is a radius of $\odot R$. Is \overline{ST} tangent to $\odot R$?



Solution

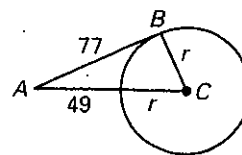
Use the Converse of the Pythagorean Theorem. Because $10^2 + 24^2 = 26^2$, $\triangle RST$ is a _____ and $\overline{RS} \perp$ _____. So, _____ is perpendicular to a radius of $\odot R$ at its endpoint on $\odot R$. By _____, \overline{ST} is _____ to $\odot R$.

✓ **Checkpoint** \overline{RS} is a radius of $\odot R$. Is \overline{ST} tangent to $\odot R$?



Example 5 Find the radius of a circle

In the diagram, B is a point of tangency. Find the radius r of $\odot C$.



Solution

You know from Theorem 6.1 that $\overline{AB} \perp \overline{BC}$, so $\triangle ABC$ is a _____. You can use the Pythagorean Theorem.

$$AC^2 = BC^2 + AB^2$$

Pythagorean Theorem

$$(r + 49)^2 = r^2 + 77^2$$

Substitute.

$$r^2 + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} r + \underline{\hspace{1cm}} = r^2 + \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Multiply.

$$\underline{\hspace{1cm}} r = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

Subtract from each side.

$$r = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$$

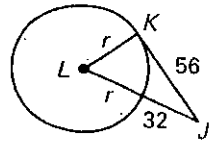
Divide each side by _____.

The radius of $\odot C$ is _____.

Your Notes

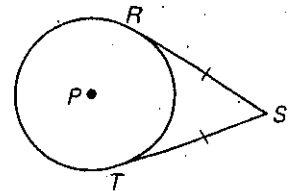
✓ **Checkpoint** Complete the following exercise.

7. In the diagram, K is a point of tangency. Find the radius r of $\odot L$.



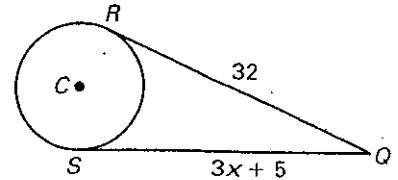
THEOREM 6.2

Tangent segments from a common external point are _____.



Example 6 Use properties of tangents

\overline{QR} is tangent to $\odot C$ at R and \overline{QS} is tangent to $\odot C$ at S . Find the value of x .



Solution

$$QR = QS$$

Tangent segments from a common external point are _____.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Substitute.

$$\underline{\hspace{2cm}} = x$$

Solve for x .