

## Integration by Trigonometric Substitution

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We now study a substitution “trick” employed to eliminate square roots in an integral. The trick is based on the Pythagorean Identity  $\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta = 1$  or one of its equivalent identities discussed last section. The trick is summed up in the following table:

Expression	Substitution	Identity
$\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}$	$x = a \cdot \sin \theta$	$1 - \sin^2 \theta = \cos^2 \theta$
$\sqrt{a^2 + x^2}$	$x = a \cdot \tan \theta$	$1 + \tan^2 \theta = \sec^2 \theta$
$\sqrt{x^2 - a^2}$	$x = a \cdot \sec \theta$	$\sec^2 \theta - 1 = \tan^2 \theta$

After integrating, a reverse substitution will be needed to return to the variable  $x$ .

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1.  $\int \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} dx$

2. Find the area of a circle of radius  $r$ .

*(finally!)*

3.  $\int \frac{\sqrt{x^2 - 9}}{x} dx$

4.  $\int \frac{x}{\sqrt{3-x^2}} dx$

5.  $\int \frac{dx}{x^2\sqrt{x^2+36}}$

6.  $\int_0^{2/3} \frac{x^3}{(9x^2+4)^{3/2}} dx$

7.  $\int \sqrt{16+6x-x^2} dx$

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