

How to remember the trigonometric table for the most commonly used arguments

Step 1. Draw the table

	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin					
cos					
tan					
cot					

Step 2. Write fractions with **2** in the denominator in the first row. Leave the numerator empty for now.

	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin	/2	/2	/2	/2	/2
cos					
tan					
cot					

Step 3. Write numbers from **0** to **4** in the numerators in the first row.

	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin	0/2	1/2	2/2	3/2	4/2
cos					
tan					
cot					

Step 4. Write **square roots** in the numerators.


	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin	$(\sqrt{0})/2$	$(\sqrt{1})/2$	$(\sqrt{2})/2$	$(\sqrt{3})/2$	$(\sqrt{4})/2$
cos					
tan					
cot					

Step 5. Simplify numbers in the first row.

	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin	0	1/2	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{3}/2$	1
cos					
tan					
cot					

Step 6. Fill in the second row - rewrite the numbers from the first row in a reversed order.

	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin	0	1/2	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{3}/2$	1
cos	1	$\sqrt{3}/2$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	1/2	0
tan					
cot					



Step 7. Fill in the third row – divide the first row by the second row.

	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin	0	1/2	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{3}/2$	1
cos	1	$\sqrt{3}/2$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	1/2	0
tan	0	$1/\sqrt{3}$	1	$\sqrt{3}$	---
cot					

Step 8. Fill in the fourth row – rewrite the numbers from the third row in a reversed order.

	0	$\pi/6$	$\pi/4$	$\pi/3$	$\pi/2$
sin	0	1/2	$\sqrt{2}/2$	$\sqrt{3}/2$	1
cos	1	$\sqrt{3}/2$	$\sqrt{2}/2$	1/2	0
tan	0	$1/\sqrt{3}$	1	$\sqrt{3}$	---
cot	----	$\sqrt{3}$	1	$1/\sqrt{3}$	0

