

Measuring angles with a protractor

The size of an [angle](#) depends on how wide or narrow the opening between its two sides is. This opening is measured in **degrees**. There are 360 degrees in a full rotation.

A **protractor** is a tool that measures the number of degrees in an angle.

How to use a protractor

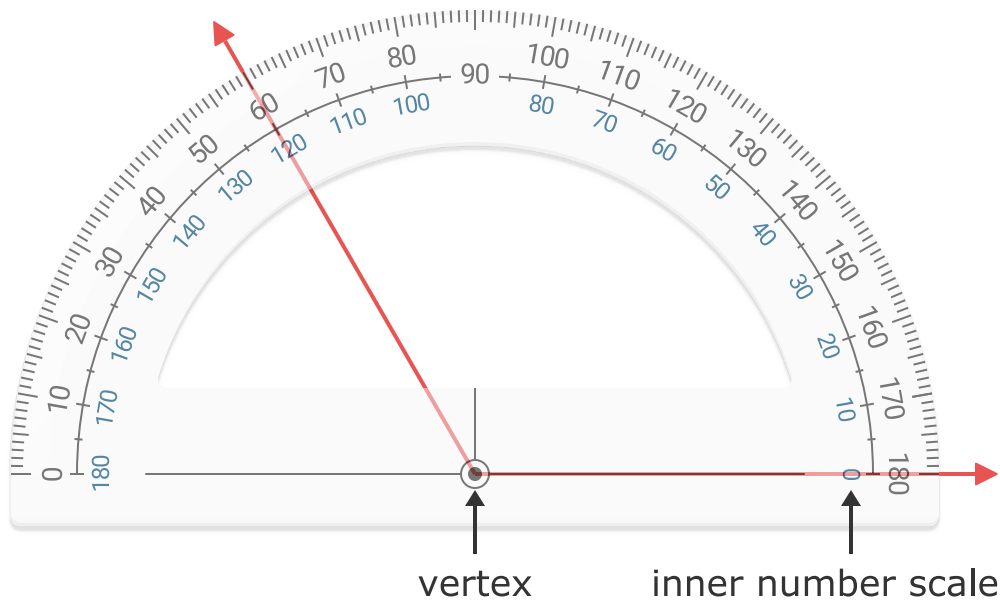
To measure an angle using a protractor, follow the steps below.

1. Line up the vertex of the angle with the dot at the center of the protractor.
2. Line up one side of the angle with 0 degrees on the protractor.
3. Read the protractor to see where the other side of the angle crosses the number scale.

Most protractors have two number scales. It's important to use the same number scale for both sides of the angle.

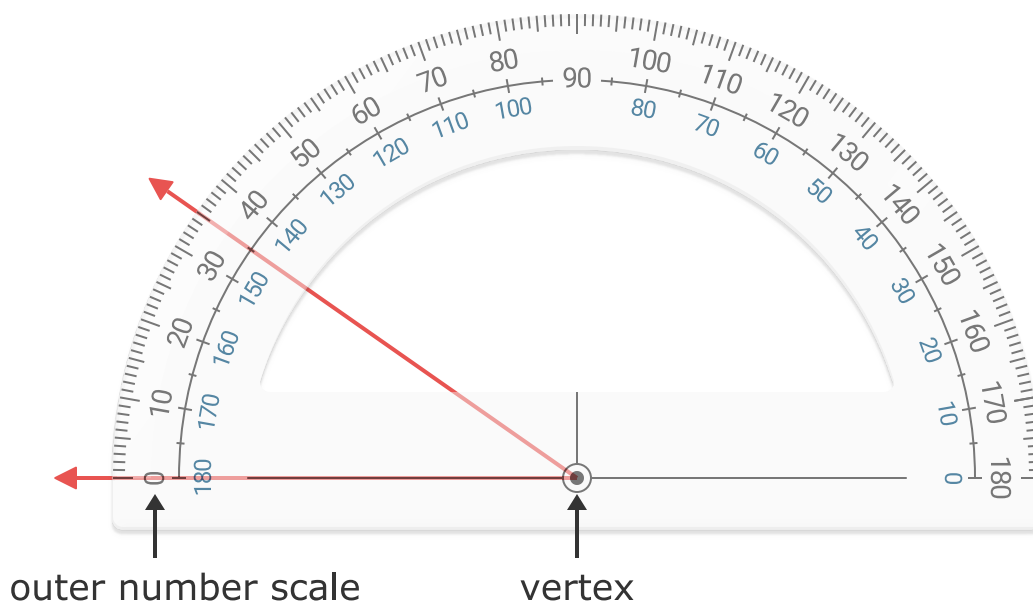
Let's try it!

One side of this **angle** is lined up with 0 degrees on the **inner number scale** of the protractor. Read the **inner number scale** where the other side crosses.



This angle measures 120 degrees, or 120° .

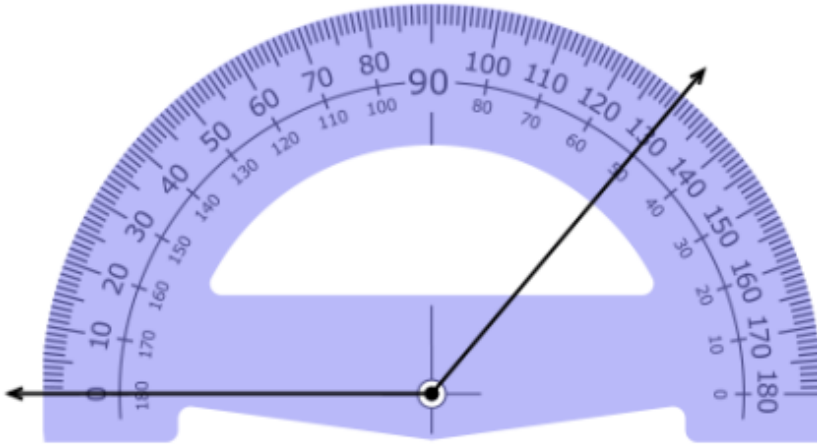
Let's try another example. One side of this **angle** is lined up with 0 degrees on the **outer number scale** of the protractor. Read the **outer number scale** where the other side crosses.



This angle measures 35 degrees, or 35° .

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What is the measurement of this angle?

°

Measure angles with a protractor NCN

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Lessons

Types of angles

Types of triangles