# Reteaching Reciprocal Trigonometric Functions

You have already worked with sine, cosine, and tangent functions. The reciprocals of these functions are also trigonometric functions:

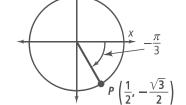
CosecantSecantCotangent
$$\csc \theta = \frac{1}{\sin \theta}$$
 $\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$  $\cot \theta = \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$  $\sin \theta = \frac{1}{\csc \theta}$  $\cos \theta = \frac{1}{\sec \theta}$  $\tan \theta = \frac{1}{\cot \theta}$ 

### Problem

What is the exact value of  $\sec\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right)$ ? Do not use a calculator.

**Step 1** Find the reciprocal of 
$$\sec\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right)$$
.  $\frac{1}{\sec\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right)} = \cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right)$ 

**Step 2** Draw the unit circle. Draw the terminal side of the angle  $-\frac{\pi}{3}$ 



- **Step 3** Label the coordinates of the point where the unit circle intersects the terminal side of the angle  $-\frac{\pi}{3}$ .
- **Step 4** Find the exact value of  $\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right)$ .  $\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = x$ -coordinate of point  $P = \frac{1}{2}$ .
- $\sec\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right) = \frac{1}{\cos\left(-\frac{\pi}{3}\right)} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}} = 2$ **Step 5** Use the definition of secant.

### **Exercises**

Find the exact value of each expression. Do not use a calculator.

**1.** 
$$\cot \frac{\pi}{6} \sqrt{3}$$

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$$\cot \frac{\pi}{6} \sqrt{3}$$
 **2.**  $\sec \left(-\frac{3\pi}{4}\right) - \sqrt{2}$  **3.**  $\csc \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right) - 1$  **4.**  $\sec \frac{5\pi}{3}$  **2**

3. 
$$\csc\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}\right)$$
 -1

**4.** 
$$\sec \frac{5\pi}{3}$$
 **2**

**5.** 
$$\csc \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{2}$$

**6.** 
$$\cot \frac{2\pi}{3} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

7. 
$$\sec{(3\pi)}$$
 –

**5.** 
$$\csc \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{2}$$
 **6.**  $\cot \frac{2\pi}{3} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$  **7.**  $\sec (3\pi) - 1$  **8.**  $\csc \left( -\frac{\pi}{6} \right) - 2$ 

## Reteaching (continued)

Reciprocal Trigonometric Functions

The graphs of cosecant, secant, and cotangent functions are related to the graphs of sine, cosine, and tangent functions.

- The graph of a cosecant function has a vertical asymptote where the value of the related sine function is zero.
- The graph of a secant function has a vertical asymptote where the value of the related cosine function is zero.
- The graph of a cotangent function is a reflection across a vertical line of the related tangent function.

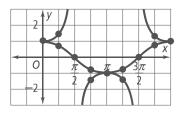
### Problem

What are the graphs of  $y = \cos x$  and  $y = \sec x$  in the interval from 0 to  $2\pi$ ?

**Step 1** Make a table of values. Use the fact that  $\sec \theta = \frac{1}{\cos \theta}$ . The graph of  $y = \sec x$  has asymptotes where  $\cos x$  is equal to zero.

$\theta$	0	$\frac{\pi}{4}$	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	$\frac{3\pi}{4}$	$\pi$	$\frac{5\pi}{4}$	$\frac{3\pi}{2}$	$\frac{7\pi}{4}$	2π
$\cos \theta$	1	0.707	0	-0.707	-1	-0.707	0	0.707	1
$\frac{1}{\cos\theta}$	1/1	1 0.707	1 0	$\frac{1}{-0.707}$	<u>1</u> -1	$\frac{1}{-0.707}$	1 0	1 0.707	1 1
sec θ	1	1.414		-1.414	-1	-1.414		1.414	1

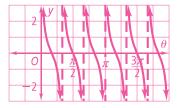
**Step 2** Plot the points from the table. Connect the points with smooth curves.



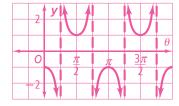
### **Exercises**

Sketch each graph in the interval from 0 to  $2\pi$ .

9. 
$$y = \cot 3\theta$$



**10.** 
$$y = -\sec 2\theta$$



**11.** 
$$y = -2 \csc \frac{1}{2}\theta$$

