

Review of average (Arithmetic Mean - AM):

The average of two numbers is found using: $AM = \frac{a+b}{2}$

Remember to use parentheses around the top part when using your calculator

Example: 35 and 75 $AM \text{ (average)} = (35 + 75) / 2 = 55$

Geometric Mean (GM):

The geometric mean of two numbers is found using $GM = \sqrt{ab}$

Geometric means will always be less than or equal to Arithmetic Means

Example: 35 and 75 $GM = \sqrt{35 \times 75} = \sqrt{2625} = 51.23$

Problems:

Find the AM and GM of the following pairs of numbers:

AM

GM

1. 10, 18

2. 24, 9

3. 30, 38

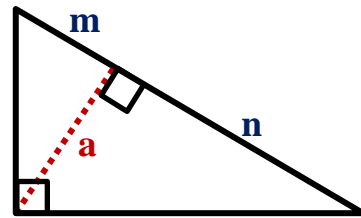
4. 74, 88

5. 8, 38

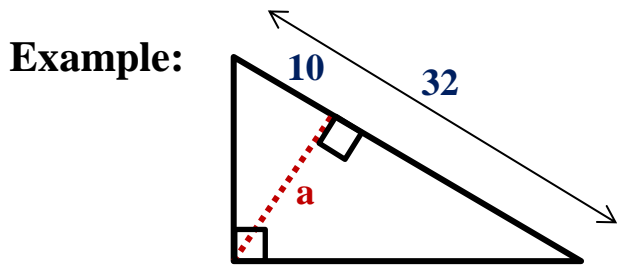
6. 32, 14

Geometric Mean Application Problems:

The length of an *altitude* to the hypotenuse in a right triangle is the geometric mean of the divided hypotenuse, $a = \sqrt{mn}$.



From similar triangles: $\frac{a}{m} = \frac{n}{a}$ $a = \sqrt{mn}$ with a as the little side in triangle with n and the big side in triangle with m .



Find a: 10 is part (m) of divided hypotenuse, need to find n (32 – 10), 22.

$$a = \sqrt{mn} = \sqrt{10 \times 22} = \sqrt{220}$$
$$a = 14.83$$

