RELATIONSHIPS WITH TANGENTS

DEFINITON

A tangent is a line that intersects a circle at one point.

EXAMPLE:



TANGENT PROPERTIES

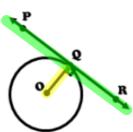
Property 1 (TANGENT-RADIUS RULE)

The line drawn perpendicular to a radius touching its endpoint is a tangent to the circle.

Property 2

A line drawn perpendicular to a tangent of a circle at the point of tangency passes through the centre of the circle.

DIAGRAM (1 & 2)

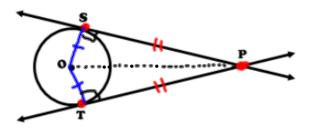


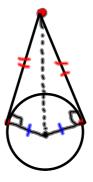
$$\omega^{R} = \frac{9}{7}$$

Property 3 (TANGENT-TANGENT RULE)

Tangents drawn from a point outside the circle are equal in length (and with radii and a line through the center, form two identical triangles).

For example, in the diagram below PS = PT.





Property 4 (TANGENT-CHORD RULE)

The angle between a tangent and a chord is equal to the inscribed angle subtended on the opposite side of the chord.

For example, in the diagram below, $\leq RPT = \leq S$ and $\leq SPB = \leq T$.

