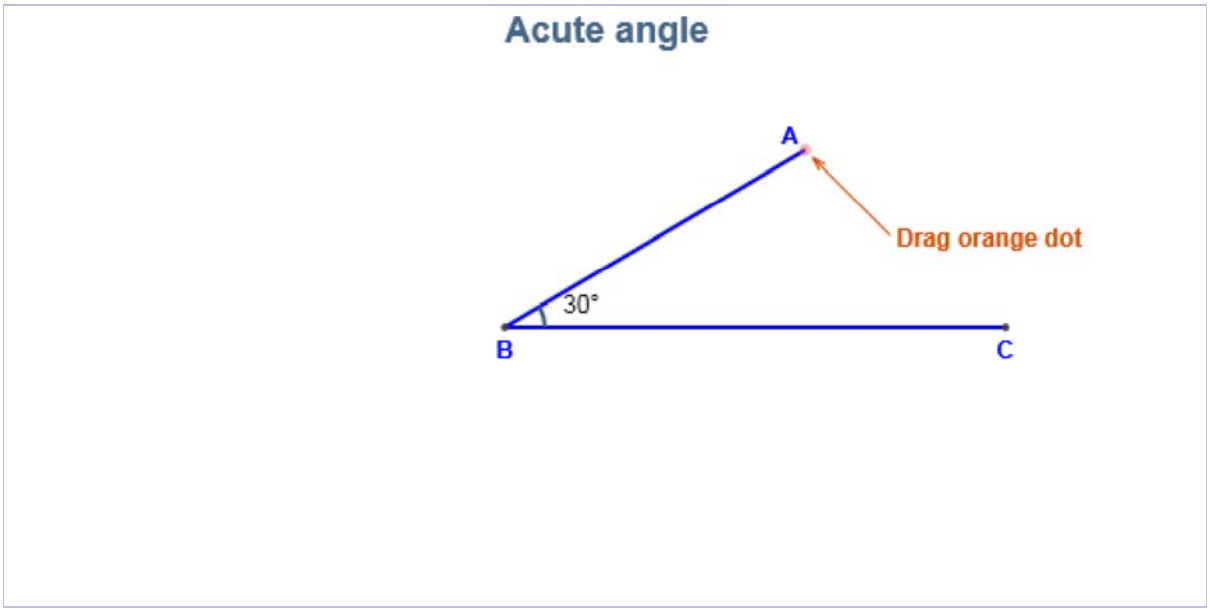
Math Open Reference

Acute angle

From Latin: acutus - "sharp, pointed"

Definition: An angle whose measure is less than 90°

Try this Adjust the angle below by dragging an orange dot and see how the angle ∠ABC behaves. Note that it is acute for all angles from zero to (but not including) 90°



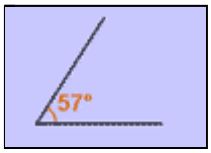
Acute angles are the smallest, being between (but not including) zero and 90° Note also that acute triangles are those where all the interior angles are acute.

A way to remember

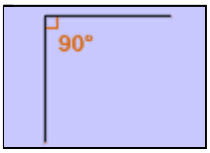
Sometimes we can confuse acute and obtuse angles. A way to remember is that small things tend to be cute. Acute angle is the smallest type.

Types of angle

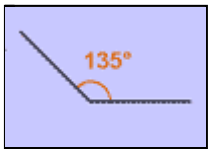
Altogether, there are six types of angle as listed below. Click on an image for a full description of that type and a corresponding interactive applet.



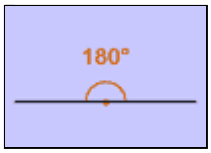
Acute angle
Less than 90°



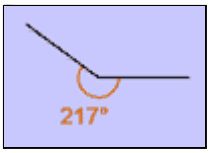
Right angle
Exactly 90°



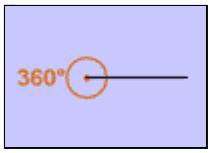
Obtuse angle
Between 90° and 180°



Straight angle
Exactly 180°



Reflex angle
Between 180° and 360°



Full angle
Exactly 360°

Other angle topics

General

Angle definition
Degrees
Radians
Angle bisector
Subtended angle
Interior of an angle
Included angle

Angle Types

Acute angle
Right angle
Obtuse angles
Straight angle
Reflex angle
Full angle

Angle relationships

Vertical angles
Complementary angles
Supplementary angles
Linear pair
Adjacent angles
Corresponding angles
Alternate interior angles
Alternate exterior angles
Interior angles of a transversal

Exterior angles of a transversal