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# Common Trigonometry Mistakes

## Example: Value of a Trigonometric Function

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### The Goal

Find the exact value of:

$$\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)$$

### The Mistake

Find the mistake:

$$\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 0.7071$$

Need a hint? Look carefully at the red part:

$$\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 0.7071$$

### The Correction

$$\sin\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$$

### An Explanation

The words *exact value* often mean "don't use a calculator". You are expected to know the exact values of the trigonometric functions at all the nice angles. Visit [Trigonometric Facts](#) to help learn these values.