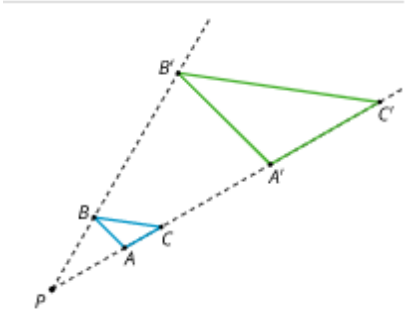
Unit 3 Glossary Terms

dilation

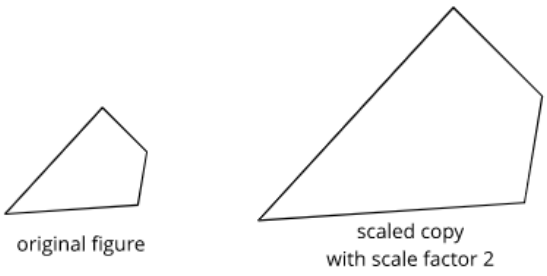
A dilation with center P and positive scale factor k takes a point A along the ray PA to another point whose distance is k times farther away from Pthan A is.

Triangle $A'B'C'$ is the result of applying a dilation with center P and scale factor 3 to triangle ABC'.



Scale factor

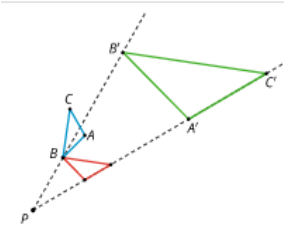
The factor by which every length in an original figure is increased or decreased when you make a scaled copy. For example, if you draw a copy of a figure in which every length is magnified by 2, then you have a scaled copy with a scale factor of 2.



similar

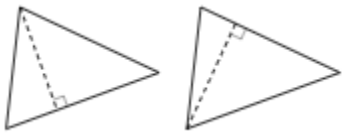
One figure is similar to another if there is a sequence of rigid motions and dilations that takes the first figure onto the second.

Triangle $A'B'C'$ is similar to triangle ABC' because a rotation with center B followed by a dilation with center P takes ABC to $A'B'C'$.



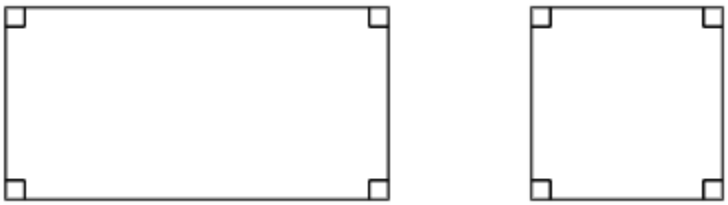
altitude

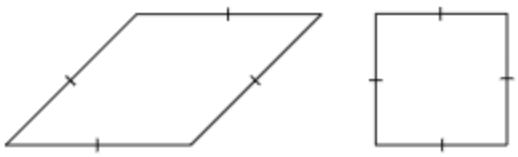
An altitude in a triangle is a line segment from a vertex to the opposite side that is perpendicular to that side.



rectangle

A quadrilateral with four right angles.



rhombus

A quadrilateral with four congruent sides.