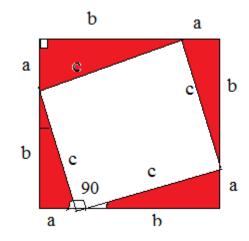
Pythagorean Theorem Proof



Inside is a square!

Area big square =
$$(a+b)(a+b)$$

Area big square = Small square +

$$4*Triangle$$

= $c*c + 4*(1/2)*a*b$

$$(a+b)^2 = c^2 + 4 \times \frac{1}{2}ab$$

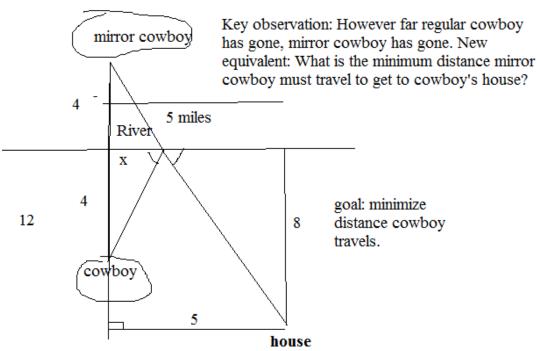
$$(a+b)^2 = c^2 + 2ab$$

$$a^{2} + 2ab + b^{2} = c^{2} + 2ab$$

 $a^{2} + b^{2} = c^{2}$

Mirror Cowboy Problem

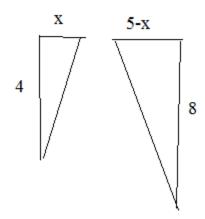
A cowboy is 4 miles south of a river. The river runs East-West. He needs to go to the river so his horse can get some water, and then head home. His house is 4 miles south and 5 miles east of his current location. What's the shortest distance he can travel to get to the river and then to his house?



Answer: Mirror cowboy goes in a straight line!

$$Distance = \sqrt{12^2 + 5^2} = \sqrt{144 + 25} = \sqrt{169} = 13$$

To solve for x, use similar triangles:



$$\frac{x}{4} = \frac{5 - x}{8}$$

$$8x = 4(5 - x)$$

$$8x = 20 - 4x$$

$$12x = 20$$

$$x = \frac{5}{3}$$