

Simplify the following trigonometric expressions.

$$1. \sin^2 x \cos^2 x - \cos^2 x$$

$$\cos^2 x (\sin^2 x - 1) \leftarrow \text{Pythag Identity}$$

$$\cos^2 x (-\cos^2 x)$$

$$\boxed{-\cos^4 x}$$

$$2. \sec^2 x \cot x - \cot x$$

$$\cot x (\sec^2 x - 1) \leftarrow \text{Pythag. Identity}$$

$$\cot x (\tan^2 x)$$

$$\frac{\cos x}{\sin x} \left(\frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos^2 x} \right)$$

$$\frac{\cancel{\cos x}}{\cancel{\sin x}} \left(\frac{\cancel{\sin x} \cdot \cancel{\sin x}}{\cancel{\cos x} \cdot \cancel{\cos x}} \right)$$

$$\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \boxed{\tan x}$$

$$3. \sin^3 x + \sin x \cos^2 x$$

$$\sin x (\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x) \leftarrow \text{Pythag. Identity}$$

$$\sin x (1)$$

$$\boxed{\sin x}$$

$$4. \cot^2 x - \cot^2 x \cos^2 x$$

$$\cot^2 x (1 - \cos^2 x) \leftarrow \text{Pythag. Identity}$$

$$\cot^2 x (\sin^2 x)$$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x}{\cancel{\sin^2 x}} \left(\frac{\cancel{\sin^2 x}}{1} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\cos^2 x}$$

$$5. \sin x \csc x - \sin^2 x$$

$$\sin x (\csc x - \sin x)$$

$$\frac{\sin x}{1} \left(\frac{1}{\sin x} - \frac{\sin x}{1} \right) \leftarrow \text{LCD: } \sin x$$

$$\frac{\sin x}{1} \left(\frac{1}{\sin x} - \frac{\sin x \cdot \sin x}{\sin x} \right)$$

$$\frac{\sin x}{1} \left(\frac{1}{\sin x} - \frac{\sin^2 x}{\sin x} \right)$$

$$\frac{\sin x}{1} \left(\frac{1 - \sin^2 x}{\sin x} \right) \leftarrow \text{Pythag. Identity}$$

$$\frac{\cancel{\sin x}}{1} \left(\frac{\cos^2 x}{\cancel{\sin x}} \right)$$

$$\boxed{\cos^2 x}$$

$$6. \csc x - \cos x \cot x$$

$$\frac{1}{\sin x} - \frac{\cos x}{1} \cdot \frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sin x} - \frac{\cos^2 x}{\sin x}$$

$$\frac{1 - \cos^2 x}{\sin x} \leftarrow \text{Pythag Identity}$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 x}{\sin x}$$

$$\frac{\cancel{\sin x} \cdot \cancel{\sin x}}{\cancel{\sin x}}$$

$$\boxed{\sin x}$$

7. $\cos x + \sin x \tan x$

$$\frac{\cos x}{1} + \frac{\sin x}{1} \cdot \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$$

$$\frac{\cos x \cdot \cos x}{\cos x} + \frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos x} \leftarrow \text{LCD: } \cos x$$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x}{\cos x} + \frac{\sin^2 x}{\cos x}$$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{\cos x} \leftarrow \text{Pythag Identity}$$

$$\frac{1}{\cos x} = \boxed{\sec x}$$

9. $\tan x = \frac{\sec^2 x}{\tan x} \cdot \frac{\cos^2 x}{\sin x \cos x} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} \cdot \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = \frac{1}{\cos x \sin x}$

$$\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \frac{1}{\cos x \sin x} \leftarrow \text{LCD: } \cos x \sin x$$

$$\frac{\sin x \cdot \sin x}{\sin x \cdot \cos x} = \frac{1}{\cos x \sin x}$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 x - 1}{\sin x \cos x} \leftarrow \text{Pythag Identity}$$

$$\frac{-\cos^2 x}{\sin x \cos x} = \frac{-\cos x}{\sin x} = \boxed{-\cot x}$$

11. $\frac{\tan \theta + \cot \theta}{\cot \theta} = \frac{1}{\sin \theta \cos \theta}$

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} + \frac{\cos \theta}{\sin \theta} \leftarrow \text{LCD: } (\cos \theta)(\sin \theta)$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta \cdot \sin \theta}{\sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta} + \frac{\cos \theta \cdot \cos \theta}{\sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta}$$

$$\frac{\sin^2 \theta + \cos^2 \theta}{(\sin \theta)(\cos \theta)}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sin \theta \cdot \cos \theta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sin \theta \cos \theta} \cdot \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cos^2 \theta}$$

$$= \boxed{\sec^2 \theta}$$

8. $\frac{\cos x}{\sin x} + \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \leftarrow \text{LCD: } (\sin x)(\cos x)$

$$\frac{\cos x \cdot \cos x}{\cos x \cdot \sin x} + \frac{\sin x \cdot \sin x}{\cos x \cdot \sin x}$$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x}{(\cos x)(\sin x)} + \frac{\sin^2 x}{(\cos x)(\sin x)}$$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{(\cos x)(\sin x)}$$

$$\frac{1}{(\cos x)(\sin x)} = \boxed{\sec x \csc x}$$

10. $\frac{\cos x}{1 + \sin x} + \frac{1 + \sin x}{\cos x} \leftarrow \text{LCD: } (\cos x)(1 + \sin x)$

$$\frac{\cos x \cdot \cos x}{\cos x \cdot (1 + \sin x)} + \frac{1 + \sin x}{\cos x} \cdot \frac{(1 + \sin x)}{(1 + \sin x)}$$

$$\frac{\cos^2 x}{\cos x(1 + \sin x)} + \frac{1 + 2\sin x + \sin^2 x}{\cos x(1 + \sin x)}$$

$$\text{Pythag Identity} \rightarrow \frac{(\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x) + 1 + 2\sin x}{\cos x(1 + \sin x)}$$

$$\frac{1 + 1 + 2\sin x}{\cos x(1 + \sin x)}$$

$$\frac{2 + 2\sin x}{\cos x(1 + \sin x)}$$

$$\frac{2(1 + \sin x)}{\cos x(1 + \sin x)}$$

$$= \frac{2}{\cos x}$$

$$= \boxed{2\sec x}$$

12. $(1 - \cos x)(1 + \sec x)(\cos x)$

$$(1 + \sec x - \cos x - \cos x \sec x)(\cos x)$$

$$(1 + \sec x - \cos x - \frac{\cos x}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos x})(\cos x)$$

$$(1 + \sec x - \cos x - 1)(\cos x)$$

$$(\sec x - \cos x)(\cos x)$$

$$\cos x \sec x - \cos^2 x$$

$$\frac{\cos x}{1} \cdot \frac{1}{\cos x} - \cos^2 x$$

$$1 - \cos^2 x = \boxed{\sin^2 x}$$

Answer Key: 1) $-\cos^4 x$ 2) $\tan x$ 3) $\sin x$ 4) $\cos^2 x$ 5) $\cos^2 x$ 6) $\sin x$ 7) $\sec x$

8) $\csc x \sec x$ 9) $-\cot x$ 10) $2\sec x$ 11) $\sec^2 \theta$ 12) $\sin^2 x$