

PARALLELOGRAMS WITH GSP

Part A: Constructing a parallelogram

1. Construct $\angle BAC$ using segments
2. Construct a line parallel to \overline{AB} through point C
3. Construct a line parallel to \overline{AC} through point B
4. Construct point D at the intersection of these two parallel lines.
5. Hide the parallel lines by selecting them and going to [Display]→[Hide Lines]
6. Construct sides \overline{BD} and \overline{CD}
7. You should now have a parallelogram. Move each point one at a time to make sure it remains a parallelogram.

Part B: Parallelogram Sides and Angles

1. Measure the length of each side of the parallelogram.
Use your observation to complete this theorem:

The opposite sides of a parallelogram are _____

Now move the vertices to see if this is always true.

2. Measure all the angles of the parallelogram.
Use your observations to complete the following theorems:

The opposite angles of a parallelogram are _____

Now move the vertices to see if this is always true.

Consecutive angles of a parallelogram are _____

Now move the vertices to see if this is always true.

Part C: Diagonals of a parallelogram

A **diagonal** of a polygon is a segment that connects two *non-consecutive* vertices.

1. Construct the two diagonals of your parallelogram.
2. Construct the point M at the intersection of the diagonals.
3. Measure the distances AM , MD , BM , and MC
How do these lengths relate to each other?

Complete the theorem based on your observations:

The diagonals of a parallelogram _____ **each other.**