

Measuring Angles with a Protractor

Chapter 2: Lines and Angles · Topic 3

Key Concept

Once positioned correctly, read the degree value where the second arm of the angle crosses the protractor's scale — protractors typically have two scales (reading clockwise and counter-clockwise) so care must be taken to read from the correct starting point (0°) that aligns with the first arm. Accurate angle measurement is essential in geometry, engineering, architecture, and navigation, where even small errors can lead to significant inaccuracies in construction or direction.

Quick Revision Notes

- A protractor measures angles from 0° to 180° using a semicircular scale.
- Align the protractor's centre point with the angle's vertex and baseline with one arm.
- Read the degree where the second arm crosses the scale, using the correct starting 0° .
- Protractors have two scales, so care is needed to read from the correct direction.

Practice Questions

- 1 Measure an angle drawn in your notebook using a protractor.
- 2 Draw an angle of 65° using a protractor.
- 3 Explain why care is needed when reading a protractor's two scales.