Construct the Square Root of 2

How to construct the square root of 2.



Proof of Construction

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В

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- 1. The length of AB is taken to be unity.
- 2. # The length of AB is taken to be 1 by definition.
- 3. # Since the segments AB and BC are both radii of the same circle, they are congruent, making BC of length 1.
- 4. # Since AB is perpendicular to BC (see Euclid's Proposition ??), \Box CBA is a right angle.
- 5. # By the Pythagorean Theorem (see Euclid's Proposition 47), AB2 + BC2 = AC2.
- 6. # But, since AB and BC are unity, AB = BC = 1.
- 7. # 12 + 12 = AC2
- 8. # 1 + 1 = AC2.
- 9. # 2 = AC2. 10. # AC = √2, QED.

Source: http://McAdamsMath.tripod.com/numbers/cons_sqrt_2.pdf

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