

## Guidelines for Simplifying Trig Expressions:

- \* **GOAL:** Express each problem as a single number (a constant) or a single trig function. (No trig function should appear in the denominator of an expression that has been simplified.)
- \* Follow the order of operations (**PEMDAS**) as you simplify.
- \* Binomial Expression? Look at the **PYTHAGOREAN IDENTITIES** for a match and replace the binomial with the appropriate equivalent.
- \* **FACTOR:** GCF, Difference of Two Squares, "Quadratic Trinomials" (If the expression you are trying to simplify contains an exponent larger than two, you **MUST** factor!)
- \* Substitute using basic identities - Try converting everything to terms of **SINE & COSINE!**