





The Circle

Besides the straight line, the circle is the most important shape in geometry.

A **circle** is a set of all points that are the same distance from its **center**.

Example: Any point of the curve *e* is 3 cm away from the *W*.

Therefore, curve e is called a circle with the center at point W and radius 3 cm:

 $e = \operatorname{Circ}(W, 3 \operatorname{cm})$



The distance between points A and B is usually denoted like this: |AB|.

- a) What is the distance between the points W and X?
- b) What is the distance between the points W and F?
- c) What is the distance between the points W and R?
- d) What is the distance between the points W and T?



Curve *w* is a circle with center at point *M*. Measure its radius and write the circle notation for the curve *w*.

 $w = \operatorname{Circ}(M, __\operatorname{cm})$

Name the two labeled points on the circle with letters N and T.

 $|\mathbf{MT}| = ___ cm$ $|\mathbf{MN}| = __ cm$



7

8

9

Use a compass to plot the following:

- a) circle m = Circ(A, 4 cm)
- b) circle v = Circ(A, 5 cm)
- c) circle w = Circ(B, 5 cm)
- d) circle u = Circ(C, 3 cm)

Label each circle.

3 cm 4 cm 5 cm

•A

The tool for plotting circles is called a **compass**. Its purpose is to keep a fixed distance between its graphing head and the center of the plotted circle.





B

