

Writing a Geometry Proof

9th Grade

The structure, and the habit that makes proofs writable rather than mysterious.

A proof is a chain of statements, each justified by a definition, postulate or theorem, running from the given to the conclusion.

Statement | Reason

Start

Reason: 'Given'.

list the given

Mark the diagram

Ticks for equal sides, arcs for equal angles.

before writing

Each line needs a reason

'It looks equal' is never a reason.

no leaps

End on the goal

The last statement must be exactly what was asked.

the thing to prove

Reflexive property — a shared side equals itself — is the most-forgotten step in triangle proofs.