

Here are the things I look for and try when doing trig identities First is a list of things to look for, afterward are the details of each item.

Every time you apply a change to the identity, go back to the start of the list.

What to Look for and What to Do

- 1 *Trig identities* – are there any obvious trig identities?
- 2 *Factor* – can you factor anything?
- 3 *2 Fractions* – Do you have two fractions?
 - ▷ *Common denominator*
- 4 *1 Fraction* – Do you have a single fraction?
 - ▷ *Cancel* items
 - ▷ *Multiply by a conjugate* of the top or bottom
 - ▷ *Split* into two fractions
- 5 *Convert* to sine and cosine