

Reteaching with Practice

For use with pages 766–772

GOAL**Find and use the scale factor of similar solids and use similar solids to solve problems****VOCABULARY**

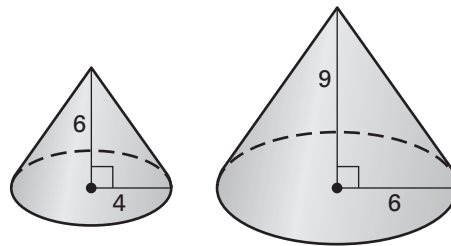
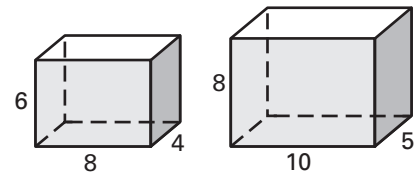
Two solids with equal ratios of corresponding linear measures, such as heights or radii, are called **similar solids**.

The common ratio of linear measures for a pair of similar solids is called the **scale factor** of one solid to the other solid.

Theorem 12.13 Similar Solids Theorem If two similar solids have a scale factor of $a:b$, then corresponding areas have a ratio of $a^2:b^2$, and corresponding volumes have a ratio of $a^3:b^3$.

EXAMPLE 1**Identifying Similar Solids**

Decide whether the two solids are similar. If so, find the scale factor.

a.**b.****SOLUTION**

- a.** The solids are similar because the ratios of corresponding linear measures are equal, as shown.

$$\text{radii: } \frac{4}{6} = \frac{2}{3} \quad \text{heights: } \frac{6}{9} = \frac{2}{3}$$

The solids have a scale factor of 2:3.

- b.** The solids are not similar because the ratios of corresponding linear measures are not equal, as shown.

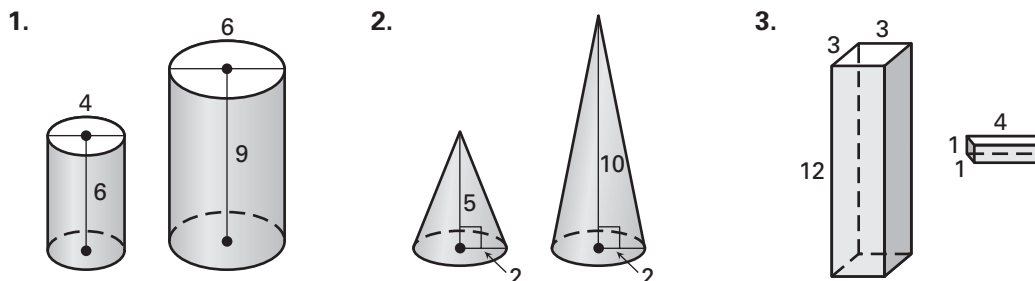
$$\text{widths: } \frac{4}{5} \quad \text{lengths: } \frac{8}{10} = \frac{4}{5} \quad \text{heights: } \frac{6}{8} = \frac{3}{4}$$

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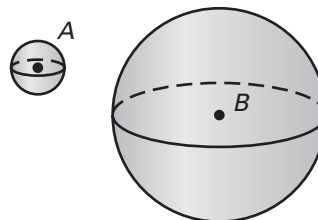
Exercises for Example 1

Decide whether the two solids are similar. If so, find the scale factor.



EXAMPLE 2 Using the Scale Factor of Similar Solids

The spheres are similar with a scale factor of 1:4. Find the surface area and volume of sphere B given that the surface area of sphere A is 144π square inches and the volume of sphere A is 288π cubic inches.



SOLUTION

Begin by using Theorem 12.13 to set up two proportions.

$$\frac{\text{Surface area of } A}{\text{Surface area of } B} = \frac{a^2}{b^2}$$

$$\frac{\text{Volume of } A}{\text{Volume of } B} = \frac{a^3}{b^3}$$

$$\frac{144\pi}{\text{Surface area of } B} = \frac{1^2}{4^2}$$

$$\frac{288\pi}{\text{Volume of } B} = \frac{1^3}{4^3}$$

$$\text{Surface area of } B = 2304\pi$$

$$\text{Volume of } B = 18,432\pi$$

So, the surface area of sphere B is 2304π square inches and the volume of sphere B is $18,432\pi$ cubic inches.

Exercises for Example 2

The solid described is similar to a larger solid with the given scale factor. Find the surface area S and volume V of the larger solid.

4. A right cylinder with a surface area of 48π square centimeters and a volume of 45π cubic centimeters; scale factor 2:3



5. A right prism with a surface area of 82 square feet and a volume of 42 cubic feet; scale factor 1:2

