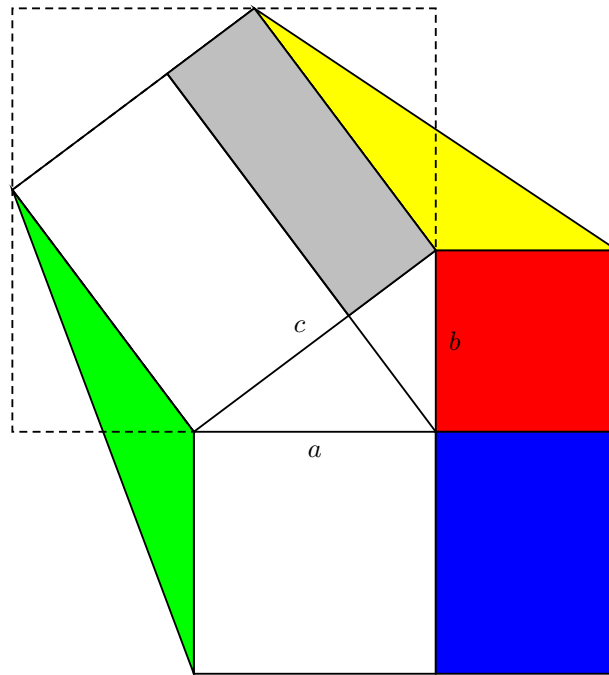


Solution to *CMJ* Problem 748.



The figure itself is a proof without words. Let the right triangle have sides a , b and c . Then the yellow triangle has a base b and height a . The green triangle has base a and height b . Their area is the same as the blue rectangle.

Since the height to the hypotenuse divides the hypotenuse into a ratio of $b^2 : a^2$. The area of the gray rectangle is therefore $c^2 \cdot \frac{b^2}{a^2 + b^2} = b^2$, the same as the red square. ■