

Download Why A Circle Has 360 Degrees

The When and Where of 360 Degrees. As you probably know, these days we humans like to divide a circle up into 360 pie-shaped wedges. Each of these wedges contains an angle at its vertex, and we say that the size of this angle is 1 degree. As you also probably know, degrees aren't the only way we can measure angles. A: Quick Answer. It was the Babylonians who first divided the circle into 360 degrees in order to integrate the geometry they developed with the 360-day calendar then in use. The Babylonians devised a counting system based not on units of 10 but on units of 60, which can be counted to on the 12 knuckles of one hand and the five fingers of the other. 1 Answer. The Babylonians knew, of course, that the perimeter of a hexagon is exactly equal to six times the radius of the circumscribed circle, in fact that was evidently the reason why they chose to divide the circle into 360 degrees (and we are still burdened with that figure to this day). The tablet, therefore, gives - Why A Circle Has 360 Degrees