

When a Picture Is a Proof

Emily Peters, Loyola University Chicago

In this talk I want to give you one or two examples of subfields of algebra where pictures are rigorously meaningful: where the illustrations are not meant to convey a broad picture or a rough map, but actual content. I won't assume any familiarity with subfactors of operator algebras, or tensor categories, but I also won't prove much about them; rather I'll explain what the pictures mean in these contexts, and give you a couple examples of cool things you can prove with diagrams.