Just Elementary Math

Introduction to Area & Perimeter

Linear & Square Units

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The space inside the four connected congruent line segments represents one square unit.

This figure represents one square unit.





One square unit **covers** the space within four congruent line segments.

The shaded space represents area.







Two square units may share a **common line segment**.

The other line segments are linear (line) units of the perimeter.

Their lengths are added to determine the perimeter of a polygon.

The **perimeter** or distance around the outside is 6 units (linear).



Three square units may share two common line segments.

The **perimeter** or distance around the outside is 8 units (linear).



Four square units may share three common line segments.

The **perimeter** or distance around the outside is 10 units (linear).



Four square units may share **four common line segments**.

The **perimeter** or distance around the outside is 8 units (linear).



Count the number of outside linear units that determine the PERIMETER

Linear and Square Units



The four congruent line segments that make a square unit can be any unit of measure.

This figure represents one square inch.

Each line segment measures approximately one inch.

The perimeter is 4 inches.



This figure represents one square centimeter.

Each line segment measures approximately one centimeter.

The perimeter is 4 centimeters.

Other square units include one square foot, one square yard, one square mile, etc.

In books, units may appear smaller than the actual size in order to conserve space.



The 5 units across are called width (wide).

The 3 units down are called length (long).

The units can represent centimeters, inches, feet, yards, miles, etc.







Area & Perimeter Math Table

	Area	Length	Width	Perimeter
	sq unit	unit	unit	units
	sq units	unit	units	units
	sq units	unit	units	units
	sq units	unit	units	units
	sq units	units	units	units
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Enter data in blank squares.



Area & Perimeter Math Table

By definition, a rectangle has two pairs of opposite sides that are equal and parallel.

The figure below has an area of 12 square units, but it is not a rectangle.



Activities:

- Draw all rectangles with an area of 12 square units
- Draw all rectangles with an area of 14 square units
- Draw all rectangles with an area of 15 square units
- Draw all rectangles with an area of 16 square units
- Draw all rectangles with an area of 18 square units
- Draw all rectangles with an area of 20 square units
- Draw all rectangles with an area of 22 square units
- Draw all rectangles with an area of 24 square units

(Each rectangle must have equal numbers of squares in the rows.)