AREA AND PERIMETER

AREA

The area of a figure is the space INSIDE the figure.
Area is usually written in terms of square centimeters, inches, feet, etc.

Finding the area of a rectangle:

Area of a rectangle = the length X width of the rectangle

The length (longer side) of this rectangle = 5 cm
The width (shorter side) of this rectangle = 2 cm

So the area of this rectangle = 5 X 2

5 X 2 = 10 square cm

The area of this rectangle = 10 cm
Finding the area of a square is very similar.

Area of a square = side length \times side length

All sides of this square = 3 cm.

So the area of this rectangle = 3 \times 3 = 9

The area of this rectangle = 9 square cm

PREVIEW

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You Try:

What is the area of this rectangle?

a) 28 cm  
b) 14 cm  
c) 36 cm  
d) 11 cm

Answer: 28 cm (because 7 \times 4 = 28)

PERIMETER

The perimeter of a polygon is the distance AROUND it. The perimeter is the sum of the lengths of ALL the sides. To find the perimeter of a polygon, you ADD the lengths of each side together.

PREVIEW

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Let’s Practice:

Step 1: First, you need to find out the lengths of the other two sides.

We know that in a rectangle the OPPOSITE sides are the SAME length.

Step 2: Let’s add the length of the longer sides first (length):

8 + 8 = 16

Step 3: Add the length of the shorter sides next (width):

3 + 3 = 6

Step 4: Now add both totals together:

16 + 6 = 22

Answer: The **perimeter** of the rectangle = 22 cm
You Try:

What is the perimeter of this triangle?

a] 4 cm  
b] 8 cm  
c] 12 cm  
d] 16 cm  

Answer: c] 12 cm (because 4 + 4 + 4 = 12)