

What is perimeter?

Perimeter is the total distance around the outside of a two-dimensional shape.

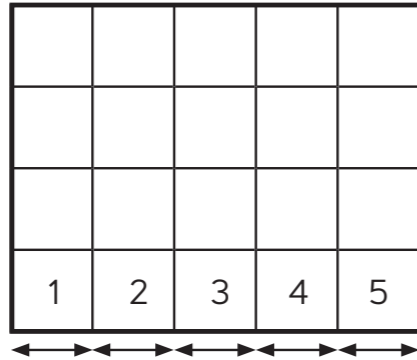
Units of perimeter

Perimeter can be measured in millimetres (mm), centimetres (cm), metres (m) and kilometres (km).

How to calculate perimeter

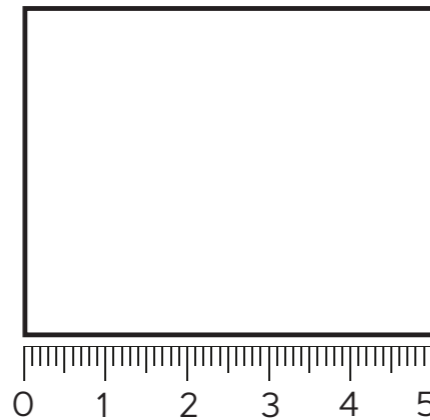
Find the length of each side by:

Counting the squares along each side



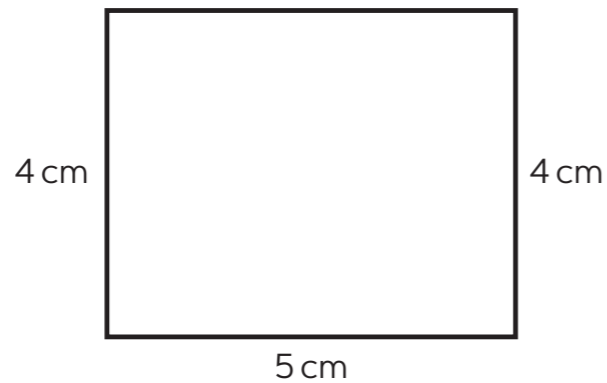
or

Measuring with a ruler



or

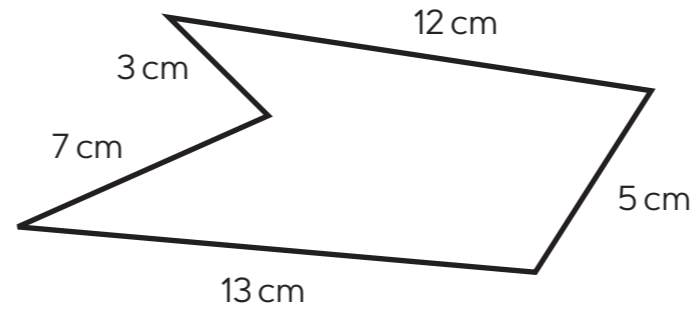
Lengths may be given on the shape



Then add the lengths of all the sides together.

$$\text{Perimeter} = 5 + 4 + 5 + 4 = 18 \text{ cm}$$

For example, calculate the perimeter of this shape:

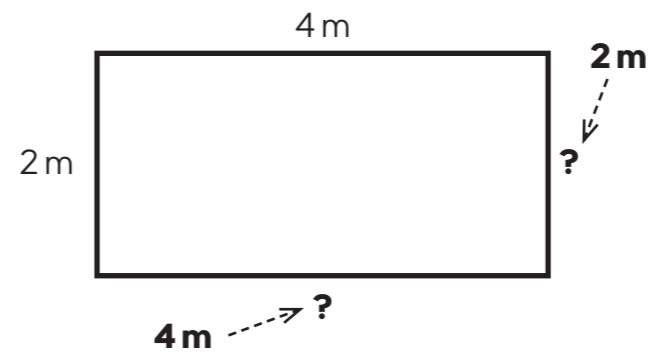


$$\text{Perimeter} = 12 + 5 + 13 + 7 + 3 = 40 \text{ cm}$$

If some lengths are missing:

- Calculate the missing lengths
- Add together the lengths of all the sides

Example



$$\text{Perimeter} = 4 + 2 + 4 + 2 = 12 \text{ m}$$

Level 4

Work out perimeters of simple shapes by adding together the lengths of the sides. The length of the sides may be given, measured or counted.

Level 5

Calculate perimeters of regular and irregular shapes with some missing but attainable measurements.