Perimeter

Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructions: Work out the shape maths and use the answer bank to check. Read the Did you know? box. Number the 4 steps in order, tick True or False, match each word to its meaning, then write short answers.

1. Shape maths

Answer bank: 18 cm | 18 cm | 20 cm | 36 cm

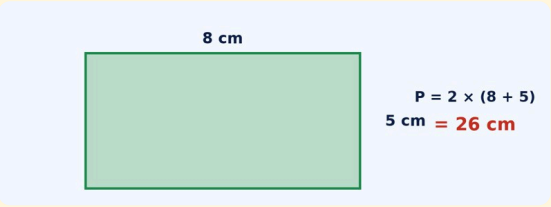
Question	Answer
Square with 9 cm sides	
Rectangle 8 cm by 2 cm	
Triangle 5 cm, 6 cm, 7 cm	
Regular hexagon with 3 cm sides	

About this topic

The perimeter is the total distance around the outside of a flat shape. Imagine an ant walking all the way round the edge: the distance it walks is the perimeter.Perimeter is a length, so we measure it in mm, cm, m or km. To find it, add up the lengths of all the sides. Make sure all sides are in the same unit first!

Did you know?

- 'Perimeter' comes from Greek: 'peri' (around) and 'metron' (measure).
- A square and a long thin rectangle can share the same perimeter.
- The edge of a coin is measured with a different word: circumference.



Perimeter of a rectangle

2. Put the steps in order

Write 1 to 4 in the boxes (1 = first).

- ☐ Missing sides: Work out any sides that are not labelled
- ☐ Label: Write the answer with its unit
- ☐ Units: Change all sides to the same unit
- ☐ Add: Go round adding every side once

3. True or false?

Perimeter is the distance around a shape.	☐ True	☐ False
Perimeter is measured in cm².	☐ True	☐ False
A square with 5 cm sides has perimeter 20 cm.	☐ True	☐ False
You add only two sides to find a rectangle's perimeter.	☐ True	☐ False

4. Match up

Write the letter of the right meaning in the box.

Perimeter		**A.** Having all sides and angles equal.
Length		**B.** The total distance around the edge of a flat shape.
Regular		**C.** A quadrilateral with four right angles.
Rectangle		**D.** How long something is, measured in mm, cm, m or km.

5. Short answers

1. Write the formula for the perimeter of a square.

2. A rectangle is 6 cm by 4 cm. What is its perimeter?

3. Why do we need to change mm into cm before adding?

4. Explain in your own words: What is perimeter, in your own words?

5. Stretch: Why must all sides be in the same unit?