

Understanding Area

Area is the amount of flat space a shape covers, measured in *square units*. Count the square tiles that fit inside the shape and you have the area.

Key Concepts

- 1. Area** is the number of square units that fit inside a flat shape without overlapping.
- For a rectangle, $\text{area} = \text{number of rows} \times \text{number of columns}$ of unit squares. (That's where the formula $\text{length} \times \text{width}$ comes from!)
- For an irregular shape, just count the unit squares inside.
- Area is always reported in *square units*: square inches, square feet, square centimeters, etc.


Worked Examples

① A rectangle is covered by 4 rows of 6 unit squares. What is its area?

 Multiply rows by columns: $4 \times 6 = 24$. So the area is 24 square units.


 **Answer:** 24 square units

② An L-shaped figure is made of 8 unit squares. What is its area?

 Just count: 8 unit squares means an area of 8 square units. (Irregular shapes don't need multiplication — counting works.)

 **Answer:** 8 square units

③ A square has 3 rows and 3 columns of unit squares. What is its area?

 Multiply: $3 \times 3 = 9$. The square covers 9 square units.

 **Answer:** 9 square units

Practice Problems

Find the area in square units.

1. 2 rows \times 5 columns = ? sq units

7. 2 rows \times 8 columns = ? sq units

2. 4 rows \times 4 columns = ? sq units

8. 7 rows \times 4 columns = ? sq units

3. 3 rows \times 7 columns = ? sq units

9. 3 rows \times 3 columns = ? sq units

4. 1 row \times 9 columns = ? sq units

10. 6 rows \times 6 columns = ? sq units

5. 6 rows \times 3 columns = ? sq units

11. 4 rows \times 9 columns = ? sq units

6. 5 rows \times 5 columns = ? sq units

12. 8 rows \times 5 columns = ? sq units

Study Tips

- ✎ For a rectangle, “rows \times columns” is the same as “length \times width.” Both give the area.
- ✎ Always include the unit: “12 square units,” not just “12.”
- ✎ For irregular shapes, count the unit squares one at a time. Make a mark in each one so you don’t double-count.

Word Problems

1. Lily covers a tabletop with 5 rows of 7 sticky notes. What is the area of the table in sticky-note units?

Answer: _____

2. A garden bed is made of 24 square tiles arranged in 4 equal rows. How many tiles are in each row?

Answer: _____

Answer Key — with Friendly Explanations**Practice Problems**

1. $2 \times 5 = 10$.

 **Answer:** 10 sq units

2. $4 \times 4 = 16$.

 **Answer:** 16 sq units

3. $3 \times 7 = 21$.

 **Answer:** 21 sq units

4. $1 \times 9 = 9$.

 **Answer:** 9 sq units

5. $6 \times 3 = 18$.

 **Answer:** 18 sq units

6. $5 \times 5 = 25$.

 **Answer:** 25 sq units

7. $2 \times 8 = 16$.

 **Answer:** 16 sq units

8. $7 \times 4 = 28$.

 **Answer:** 28 sq units

9. $3 \times 3 = 9$.

 **Answer:** 9 sq units

10. $6 \times 6 = 36$.

 **Answer:** 36 sq units

11. $4 \times 9 = 36$.

 **Answer:** 36 sq units

12. $8 \times 5 = 40$.

 **Answer:** 40 sq units**Word Problems**1. $5 \times 7 = 35$ sticky notes cover the tabletop. **Answer:** 35 sq units2. $24 \div 4 = 6$ tiles per row. **Answer:** 6 tiles

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