Perimeter of Polygons

Explore ideas and representations

Name _____ **Date** _____ **Score** _____ / 6

QUICK REVIEW

Perimeter is the distance around the outside. Add every outer side exactly once. Use length units, not square units. If one side is missing, subtract the known side lengths from the total perimeter.

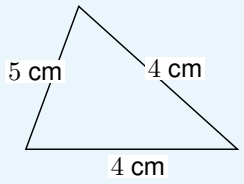
Worked example

Find the perimeter of this triangle. The drawing is not to scale.

1. Add the first two sides: $4 + 4 = 8$ cm.

2. Include the third side: $8 + 5 = 13$ cm.

Answer: 13 cm.



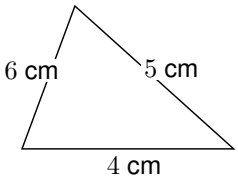
Practice Problems

Show your thinking.

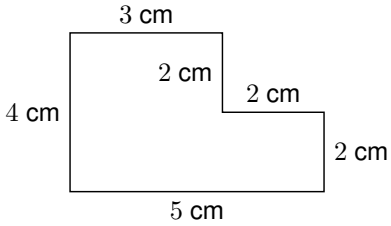
1. Find the perimeter. Count every outer side once.



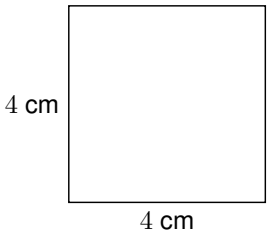
2. Find the perimeter of this triangle. The drawing is not to scale.



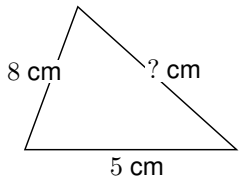
3. Find the perimeter of the L-shaped figure. Include the two sides of the inward step. The drawing is not to scale.



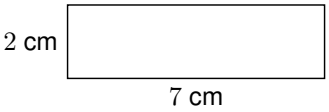
4. Rae reports a perimeter of 16 cm by multiplying 4×4. Correct the method and answer.



5. This triangle has perimeter 20 cm. Find the missing side length.



6. Compare perimeters of 7-by-2 and 8-by-1 rectangles (all lengths in cm).



Answer Key

1. 18 cm.
2. 15 cm.
3. 18 cm.
4. 16 cm.
5. 7 cm.
6. Both are 18 cm.

Step-by-Step Solutions

Follow each calculation, then check your own work.

Problem 1

1. Opposite sides match, so the side lengths are $6, 3, 6, 3$ cm.
2. Perimeter $= 6 + 3 + 6 + 3 = 18$ cm.

Problem 2

1. Add the first two sides: $4 + 5 = 9$ cm.
2. Include the third side: $9 + 6 = 15$ cm.

Problem 3

1. The bottom, right, and two step lengths total $5 + 2 + 2 + 2 = 11$ cm.
2. Include top and left: $11 + 3 + 4 = 18$ cm.

Problem 4

1. $4 \times 4 = 16$ measures covered area in square centimeters, not the edge.
2. Add all outer lengths: $4 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 16$ cm.

Problem 5

1. The known sides total $5 + 8 = 13$ cm.
2. The missing side is $20 - 13 = 7$ cm; $5 + 7 + 8 = 20$ checks it.

Problem 6

1. First perimeter: $2 \times (7 + 2) = 2 \times 9 = 18$ cm.
2. Second: $2 \times (8 + 1) = 2 \times 9 = 18$ cm. One extra cm of length cancels one less cm of height.

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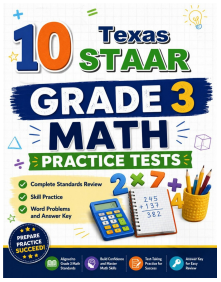

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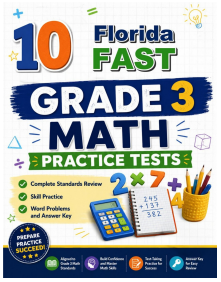

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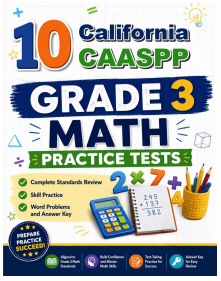

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