How Many Squares Cover It?

Year 4 Maths - Area of rectilinear shapes

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Today we will...

WE ARE LEARNING TO

- Understand area is space inside a shape
- Count squares to find area
- Find area of rectilinear shapes

SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE

- ✓ I can explain area in my own words
- ✓ I can tick and count every square
- ✓ I can split L-shapes and add parts

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BIG IDEA

Area is how many squares it takes to cover a flat shape.

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Is It Rectilinear?



Straight sides

Every side is straight.



Square corners

All corners are right angles.



Joined rectangles

Looks like rectangles stuck together.



Not rectilinear

Curvy or slanted shapes do not count.

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Which Way Works Best?

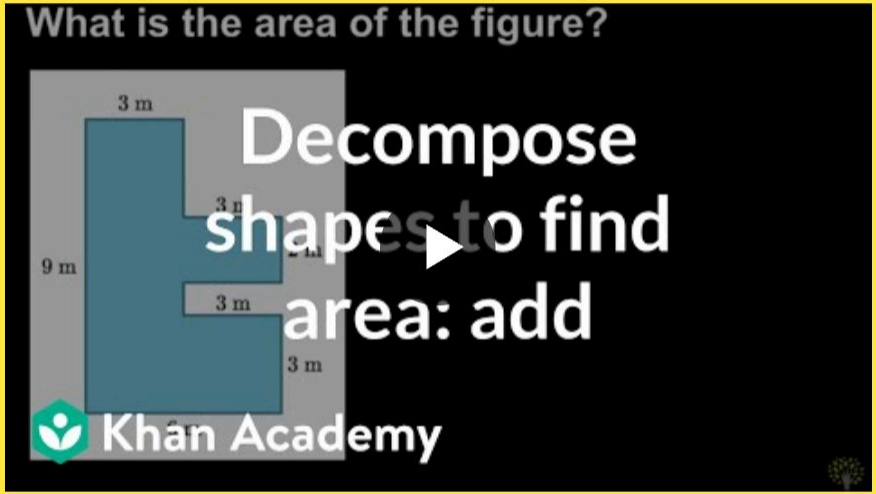
Which way of counting squares do you prefer?

- **A** Tick one square at a time
- **B** Count row by row
- **C** Split the shape, then add
- **D** Colour each part differently

Vote with your hands, then explain why.

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Watch: Split and Add



▶ 0:00 – 3:36

- Watch where the shape is split
- Count squares in each part
- Listen for how parts add up

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Key words

area

Space inside a flat shape.

rectilinear shape

Flat shape with straight sides and square corners.

square centimetre (cm²)

Area of a 1 cm by 1 cm square.

split

Cut a shape into rectangles to count.

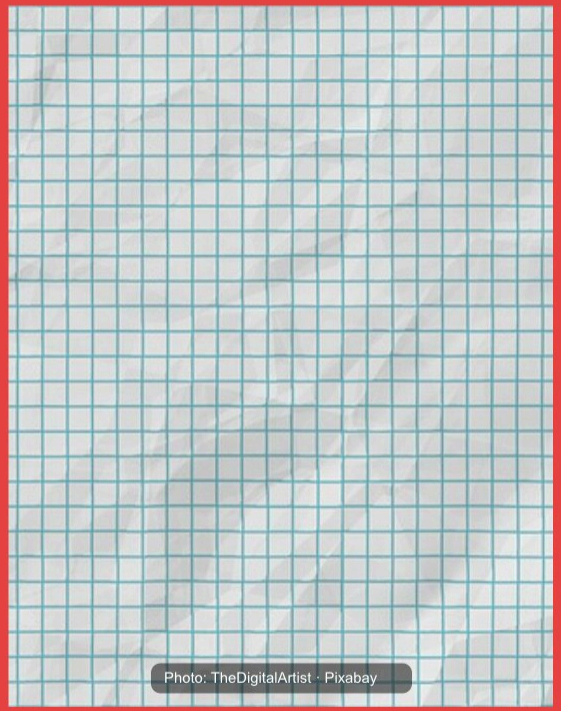
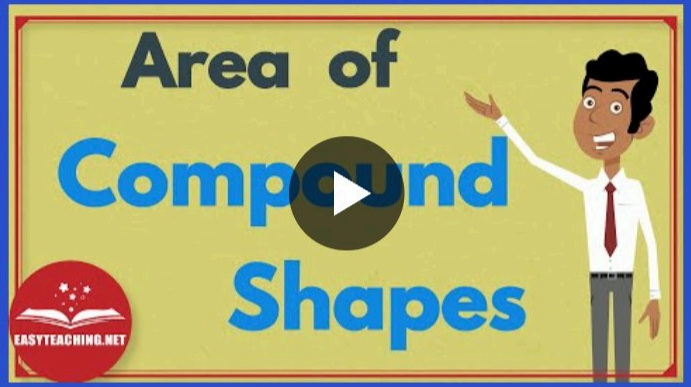


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Watch: Shapes Made Easy



▶ 0:00 – 5:00

- Spot the rectangles inside the shape
- See how squares are counted
- Check how totals are added

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Your task

In pairs, draw and measure three rectilinear shapes on squared paper.

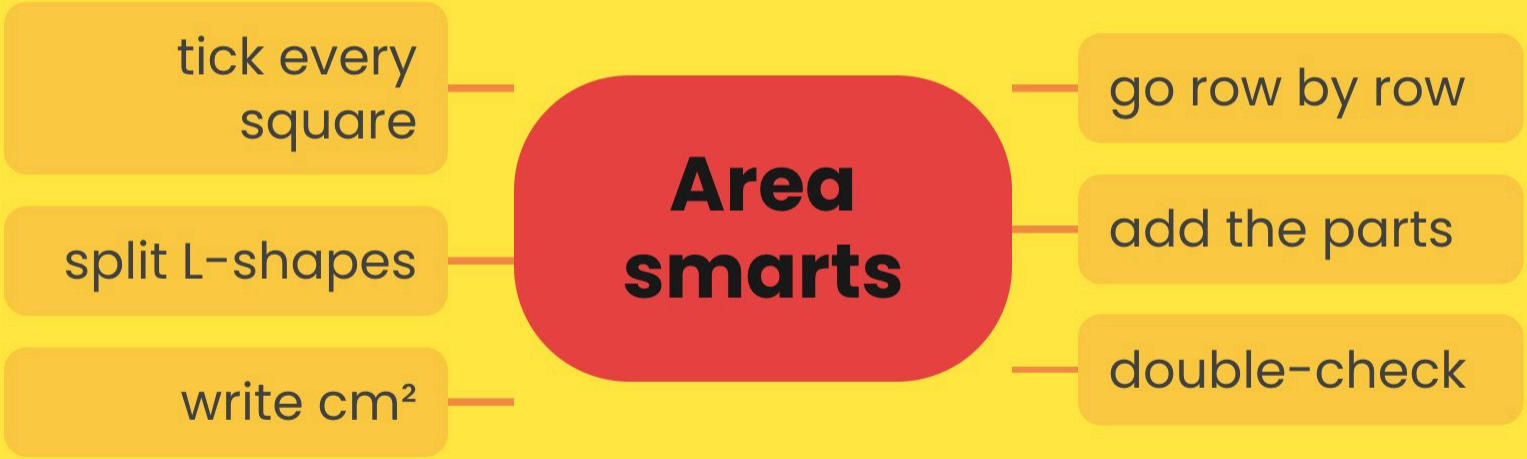
1. Draw an L-shape and two other shapes
2. Tick each square as you count
3. Label area like 10 cm² and swap to check

15 min

In pairs

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Counting Like a Pro



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Exit ticket

1. One thing I learnt today is...

2. The area of my L-shape was... because...

3. One question I still have is...

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