

Why beams are deep, not wide

engineering

What you need: 30 cm plastic ruler · card strip (roughly 30 cm by 2 to 3 cm) · wooden lolly stick · measuring tape (mm/cm) · timber offcut or spare shelf batten (fallback demo beam)

Words to use

Beam · Depth · Width · Orientation

Our question

Does a simple beam bend more easily when it is flat, or when it stands on its edge?

I predict...because...

Depth and width of real beams (in mm)

Beam	Width (mm)	Depth (mm)	Depth greater than width?

Draw a bar chart of our results

Which orientation was harder to bend for each material?

What stayed the same, and what changed?