

Perimeter of rectangles and simple shapes

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

The perimeter is the total distance all the way around the edge of a flat shape. You find it by adding the length of every side once.

→ A 6 cm by 3 cm rectangle has a perimeter of $6 + 3 + 6 + 3 = 18$ cm.

→ A 4 cm by 4 cm square has a perimeter of $4 + 4 + 4 + 4 = 16$ cm.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

YARD RECTANGLE PERIMETER

- ① The plan shows a school-yard rectangle 5 cm long and 3 cm wide.
- ② Opposite sides match, so the four sides are **5 cm, 3 cm, 5 cm and 3 cm**.
- ③ Write the addition: **$5 + 3 + 5 + 3$** .
- ④ Add step by step: $5 + 3 = 8$, $8 + 5 = 13$, $13 + 3 = 16$. The perimeter is 16 cm.

DISCUSSION STARTER

REFLECT Did knowing opposite sides are equal make finding the perimeter faster? How?

ANSWER KEY

c) $6 + 3 + 6 + 3 = 18$ cm

Q1: 28 cm

Q2: 18 cm

a) **Always** — Perimeter means the total distance around so every side is added once.

b) **Always** — Opposite sides of a rectangle are always equal.

c) **Never** — Once you know the length and width the matching sides are known without measuring.

d) **Always** — All four sides of a square are equal so you multiply one side by four.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 106 m

Investigation: Same perimeter, different area — open-ended; scan pupils' working for valid solution paths rather than a single answer.