

Area by counting square units

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

Area is the amount of flat space a shape covers, measured by counting the equal squares that fit inside it.

→ A book cover that fits 6 square tiles inside it has an area of 6 squares.

→ Lightly shading each square as it is counted keeps an L-shape's count accurate.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

COUNTING SQUARES ON A BUILDING MAT

- 1 Look at the small square mat covered in equal tiles.
- 2 Shade the first tile and say the running count **1**.
- 3 Shade the next tile and count **2**.
- 4 Shade two more tiles to reach a running count of **4**.
- 5 The mat's area is **4** square units because 4 equal squares fit inside.

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 2 square units

Q2: 3 square units

Q3: 5 square units

a) Always — This is exactly how we measure area in square units.

b) Always — When squares are equal, more squares always means greater area.

c) Never — All squares must be the same size or the count would not be fair.

d) Always — Counting works for any shape, including L-shapes.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 36 cm²

S2: 189 m²

S3: 119 m²