

Perimeter of regular and irregular shapes

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

The perimeter is the total distance around the outside edge of a shape, found by adding every side length. For regular shapes multiply the side length by the number of sides.

→ A regular hexagon with each side 4 cm has perimeter $4 \times 6 = 24$ cm.

→ An L-shaped yard needs all six sides added: $10 + 8 + 6 + 4 + 6 + 8 = 42$ m.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

PERIMETER OF A REGULAR HEXAGON

- ① Count the sides: there are six equal sides.
- ② Each side measures 4 cm so multiply 4 by 6.
- ③ The total fence needed is 24 cm.

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 18 cm

Q2: 25 cm

Q3: 44 m

Q4: 48 m

a) Always — All sides are equal so the shortcut always works.

b) Never — L-shapes have six sides but other irregular shapes can have any number.

c) Sometimes — True for irregular shapes but not needed for regular ones.

d) Always — Opposite sides are equal so this always works for rectangles.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: 25.2 m

S2: 21.2 m

S3: 39 m

S4: 46.5 m

S5: 25.6 m