

AREA AND PERIMETER WORD PROBLEMS

Updated Version

Area and perimeter word problems are fundamental components of mathematics education that help students develop a deeper understanding of geometric concepts and their practical applications. Mastering these problems enhances problem-solving skills, critical thinking, and the ability to relate mathematical ideas to real-world scenarios. In this article, we will explore the concepts of area and perimeter, discuss common types of word problems, provide strategies for solving them, and offer examples to illustrate their practical use.

Understanding Area and Perimeter

What is Perimeter?

Perimeter refers to the total length of the boundary surrounding a two-dimensional shape. It is measured in units such as inches, centimeters, or meters. The perimeter of a shape helps determine how much fencing, edging, or border material is needed.

Formulae for Perimeter:

- Rectangle: $P = 2(\text{length} + \text{width})$
- Square: $P = 4 \times \text{side}$
- Triangle: $P = \text{sum of all three sides}$
- Regular polygons: $P = \text{number of sides} \times \text{length of one side}$

What is Area?

Area measures the amount of surface space enclosed within a shape. It is expressed in square units like square inches, square centimeters, or square meters. Calculating area is essential for tasks such as determining how much paint is needed to cover a wall or how much flooring material is required.

Formulae for Area:

- Rectangle: $A = \text{length} \times \text{width}$
- Square: $A = \text{side} \times \text{side}$

- Triangle: $A = \frac{1}{2} \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$
- Parallelogram: $A = \text{base} \times \text{height}$
- Circle: $A = ? \times \text{radius}^2$

Types of Area and Perimeter Word Problems

Understanding different types of problems can help students approach each with the appropriate strategy.

1. Basic Perimeter and Area Problems

These involve straightforward calculations based on given dimensions. For example, finding the perimeter of a rectangle when length and width are known.

2. Word Problems Involving Real-Life Contexts

These problems relate geometric concepts to daily life, such as fencing a yard, painting a wall, or laying tiles.

3. Composite Shapes

Problems involving shapes made up of multiple simpler figures, requiring the calculation of individual areas or perimeters and their combination.

4. Comparing Shapes

These problems ask to compare areas or perimeters of different shapes or find the difference between them.

Strategies for Solving Area and Perimeter Word Problems

To effectively tackle these problems, students should follow structured strategies:

1. Read Carefully and Identify Key Information

- Highlight dimensions, units, and what the problem asks for.
- Determine whether you need to find area, perimeter, or both.

2. Visualize and Draw Diagrams

- Sketch the shape described in the problem.
- Label all given measurements clearly.

3. Choose the Correct Formula

- Match the shape with its respective formula.
- For composite shapes, break them down into known figures.

4. Perform Step-by-Step Calculations

- Calculate individual parts before combining.
- Pay attention to units and conversions if necessary.

5. Check Your Work

- Verify calculations.
- Ensure the answer makes sense in the context of the problem.

Examples of Area and Perimeter Word Problems

Example 1: Perimeter of a Rectangular Garden

Problem: A rectangular garden measures 20 meters in length and 15 meters in width. What is the perimeter of the garden?

Solution:

Using the perimeter formula for a rectangle:

$$P = 2(\text{length} + \text{width})$$

$$P = 2(20 + 15) = 2(35) = 70 \text{ meters}$$

Answer: The perimeter of the garden is 70 meters.

Example 2: Area of a Triangular Wall

Problem: A triangular wall has a base of 10 feet and a height of 8 feet. What is the area of the wall?

Solution:

Using the area formula for a triangle:

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \times 10 \times 8 = \frac{1}{2} \times 80 = 40 \text{ square feet}$$

Answer: The area of the wall is 40 square feet.

Example 3: Fencing a Square Pool

Problem: A square pool has sides measuring 25 meters. How much fencing is needed to surround the pool?

Solution:

$$\text{Perimeter of a square: } P = 4 \times \text{side}$$

$$P = 4 \times 25 = 100 \text{ meters}$$

Answer: 100 meters of fencing are needed.

Example 4: Laying Floor Tiles in a Rectangular Room

Problem: A room measures 12 feet in length and 10 feet in width. If each tile covers 1 square foot, how many tiles are needed to cover the entire floor?

Solution:

Calculate the area of the room:

$$A = \text{length} \times \text{width} = 12 \times 10 = 120 \text{ square feet}$$

Since each tile covers 1 square foot, the number of tiles needed is 120.

Answer: 120 tiles are required.

Practical Tips for Teaching and Learning Area and Perimeter Word Problems

- Use real-world objects for hands-on activities, such as measuring actual objects or drawing shapes.
- Incorporate technology, like geometry software or online calculators, to visualize problems.
- Develop problem-solving routines, emphasizing understanding over memorization.
- Provide a variety of problems to build confidence and adaptability.
- Encourage students to explain their reasoning to reinforce understanding.

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Confusing perimeter with area or vice versa.
- Forgetting to convert units when necessary.
- Overlooking the need to break down complex shapes into simpler parts.
- Mislabeling dimensions or misapplying formulas.
- Not double-checking calculations for accuracy.

Conclusion

Mastering area and perimeter word problems is essential for developing a well-rounded understanding of geometry and spatial reasoning. By understanding the fundamental concepts, practicing a variety of problem types, and employing strategic approaches, students can confidently solve real-world problems and strengthen their mathematical skills. Remember, practice and visualization are key?so incorporate hands-on activities and real-life scenarios to make learning engaging and meaningful.

Area and perimeter word problems are fundamental components of mathematical education, serving as practical applications of geometry that help students understand the properties of shapes and their measurements. These problems not only reinforce concepts learned in the classroom but also develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. By translating real-world scenarios into mathematical expressions, students learn to visualize and interpret geometrical figures, making the abstract concepts more tangible and meaningful.

Understanding the Basics of Area and Perimeter

Before diving into complex word problems, it's essential to grasp the fundamental definitions and differences between area and perimeter.

What is Perimeter?

Perimeter refers to the total length of the boundary around a two-dimensional shape. It's essentially the distance you would travel if you walked around the shape once. For example, the perimeter of a

rectangle is calculated by adding up all four sides or, more simply, using the formula $2 \times (\text{length} + \text{width})$.

What is Area?

Area measures the amount of space enclosed within a shape's boundaries. It is expressed in square units (e.g., square meters, square inches). For rectangles, the area is calculated by multiplying length by width. Different shapes have different formulas, such as πr^2 for circles or $(1/2) \times \text{base} \times \text{height}$ for triangles.

Types of Word Problems Involving Area and Perimeter

Word problems involving area and perimeter typically fall into several categories, each requiring specific strategies for solution:

1. Direct Application Problems

These involve straightforward calculations where the dimensions are given, and students are asked to find the area or perimeter.

Example: A rectangle has a length of 8 meters and a width of 3 meters. Find its perimeter and area.

2. Application in Real-Life Contexts

These problems relate to everyday situations, such as fencing a garden or tiling a floor.

Example: If a garden is 12 meters long and 5 meters wide, how much fencing is needed? What is the area of the garden?

3. Comparison and Optimization Problems

These problems compare different shapes or ask for the maximum area within certain constraints.

Example: Among two rectangles with the same perimeter, which one has the larger area?

4. Composite and Complex Shapes

These require breaking down complex shapes into simpler ones to find total area or perimeter.

Example: Find the total area of an L-shaped room by dividing it into rectangles.

Strategies for Solving Area and Perimeter Word Problems

Effective problem-solving hinges on choosing the right approach and applying logical steps:

Understanding the Problem

- Read carefully to identify what is being asked.
- Determine known and unknown quantities.
- Visualize the problem, possibly drawing diagrams.

Choosing the Right Formula

- Recall relevant formulas for area and perimeter.
- For irregular shapes, decompose into regular shapes.

Setting Up Equations

- Translate words into mathematical expressions.
- Use variables for unknowns and write equations accordingly.

Executing Calculations

- Substitute known values into formulas.
- Perform calculations step-by-step, keeping track of units.

Checking Reasonableness

- Verify if the answer makes sense in context.
- Reconsider if the result aligns with real-world expectations.

Examples and Practice Problems

Engaging with practical examples enhances understanding.

Example 1: Fencing a Garden

A rectangular garden measures 10 meters in length and 6 meters in width. How much fencing is needed to enclose the garden? What is the area of the garden?

Solution:

- Perimeter = $2 \times (\text{length} + \text{width}) = 2 \times (10 + 6) = 2 \times 16 = 32$ meters.
- Area = $\text{length} \times \text{width} = 10 \times 6 = 60$ square meters.

Interpretation: You need 32 meters of fencing, and the garden covers an area of 60 m².

Example 2: Tiling a Floor

A square room has sides measuring 4 meters. How many tiles of 0.5 meters on each side are needed to cover the entire floor?

Solution:

- Area of the floor = $\text{side}^2 = 4^2 = 16$ m².
- Area of one tile = $0.5 \times 0.5 = 0.25$ m².
- Number of tiles = $\text{total area} / \text{tile area} = 16 / 0.25 = 64$ tiles.

Note: Ensure to consider waste and cuts in real scenarios.

Educational Features and Considerations

When teaching or learning about area and perimeter word problems, several features and considerations enhance understanding:

Features:

- Visual Aids: Diagrams and charts help students grasp the shape and dimensions.
- Step-by-Step Guides: Breaking down problem-solving into stages promotes clarity.
- Real-World Contexts: Applying problems to everyday situations increases engagement.
- Differentiated Problems: Varying difficulty levels cater to different learning stages.

Considerations:

- Ensure students understand units and conversions.
- Emphasize the importance of accurate reading and interpretation.
- Encourage drawing diagrams for complex shapes.
- Reinforce the relationship between shape properties and calculations.

Common Challenges and How to Address Them

While area and perimeter word problems are accessible, learners often face common hurdles:

- Misreading the problem: Students may overlook key details. Encourage careful reading and highlighting important information.
- Choosing incorrect formulas: Reinforce memorization and understanding of formulas for different shapes.
- Difficulty visualizing complex shapes: Practice drawing and decomposing shapes into simpler components.
- Unit confusion: Regularly review units and conversions to prevent errors.

Addressing these challenges involves targeted practice, clear explanations, and encouraging questions.

Resources and Tools for Learning

Various educational resources can facilitate mastery of area and perimeter word problems:

- Interactive Worksheets: Dynamic exercises for practice.
- Geometry Software: Tools like GeoGebra allow students to manipulate shapes and see calculations in real time.
- Educational Videos: Visual explanations of formulas and problem-solving techniques.
- Math Games: Quizzes and puzzles that reinforce concepts in an engaging manner.

Conclusion: The Importance of Mastering Area and Perimeter Word Problems

Proficiency in solving area and perimeter word problems is essential for developing a solid foundation in geometry and applying mathematical reasoning to real-world situations. These problems extend beyond the classroom, fostering skills such as visualization, analytical thinking, and precise calculation. Whether it's planning a garden, designing a room, or understanding spatial relationships, the ability to interpret and solve such problems is invaluable. By practicing a variety of problem types and strategies, learners become confident and capable of tackling increasingly

complex geometry challenges, laying the groundwork for advanced mathematical understanding and practical application.

Question How do you find the perimeter of a rectangular garden with length 12 meters and width 8 meters? To find the perimeter, add all sides: $\text{Perimeter} = 2 \times (\text{length} + \text{width}) = 2 \times (12 + 8) = 2 \times 20 = 40$ meters. A circular swimming pool has a radius of 5 meters. How do you calculate its area? Use the formula for the area of a circle: $\text{Area} = \pi \times \text{radius}^2$. So, $\text{Area} = 3.14 \times 5^2 = 3.14 \times 25 = 78.5$ square meters. A square playground has a perimeter of 48 meters. What is the length of each side? $\text{Perimeter of a square} = 4 \times \text{side length}$. So, $\text{side length} = \text{Perimeter} \div 4 = 48 \div 4 = 12$ meters. If a rectangular room measures 15 meters in length and 10 meters in width, what is its area? $\text{Area} = \text{length} \times \text{width} = 15 \times 10 = 150$ square meters. A triangle has sides measuring 7 meters, 10 meters, and 12 meters. How do you find its perimeter? Add the lengths of all sides: $\text{Perimeter} = 7 + 10 + 12 = 29$ meters. How can you determine the area of an irregular-shaped garden using the area and perimeter concepts? Break the irregular shape into smaller regular shapes (rectangles, triangles), calculate each area separately, then sum them up. Use perimeter to find fencing length if needed. A rectangular fence surrounds a yard with an area of 60 square meters. If the length is 10 meters, what is the width and the perimeter? $\text{Width} = \text{Area} \div \text{length} = 60 \div 10 = 6$ meters. $\text{Perimeter} = 2 \times (\text{length} + \text{width}) = 2 \times (10 + 6) = 32$ meters. Why is understanding both area and perimeter important in real-world problems? Because they help in planning and designing spaces, estimating materials needed, and ensuring proper fit and coverage in tasks like construction, gardening, and decorating.

Related keywords: area, perimeter, word problems, geometry, rectangles, squares, formulas, calculation, units, practice

Word problems area of rectangle square parallelogram

Word problems area of rectangle square parallelogram

Understanding the area of various geometric shapes is fundamental in mathematics, especially when solving real-world problems. Among these shapes, rectangles, squares, and parallelograms are common, and their area calculations form the basis for many word problems encountered in academic and practical settings. Mastering how to approach, interpret, and solve word problems involving these shapes' areas enhances problem-solving skills and mathematical reasoning. This comprehensive guide aims to explore the area concepts for rectangles, squares, and parallelograms through detailed explanations, strategies for solving word problems, and practical examples.

Understanding Basic Concepts of Area

What is Area?

Area refers to the amount of surface covered by a two-dimensional shape. It is measured in square units such as square centimeters (cm²), square meters (m²), or square inches (in²). Calculating the area allows us to determine how much space a shape occupies.

Importance of Area in Real Life

Understanding area calculations helps in various fields such as:

- Architecture and construction (flooring, wall painting)
- Agriculture (farming land measurement)
- Interior design (carpet or tile coverage)
- Art and design (canvas or paper sizes)

Area of Basic Shapes: Rectangles, Squares, and Parallelograms

Rectangle

- Formula: $\text{Area} = \text{length} \times \text{width}$
- Properties: Opposite sides are equal, and angles are right angles.
- Notation: If length = L and width = W, then $\text{Area} = L \times W$.

Square

- Formula: $\text{Area} = \text{side} \times \text{side} = \text{side}^2$
- Properties: All sides are equal, and angles are right angles.
- Note: The square is a special case of a rectangle.

Parallelogram

- Formula: $\text{Area} = \text{base} \times \text{height}$
- Properties: Opposite sides are equal and parallel; angles are not necessarily right angles.
- Note: The height is the perpendicular distance between the bases.

Approach to Solving Word Problems on Area

Solving word problems involving areas requires a systematic approach:

- Read the problem carefully to understand what is given and what is asked.
- Identify the shape involved and recall the relevant formula.
- Extract numerical data and assign variables if needed.
- Determine the missing dimensions (length, width, height, base, etc.).
- Apply the area formula correctly.
- Perform calculations step-by-step.
- Check your answer in the context of the problem.

Strategies for Solving Word Problems

Step-by-Step Problem-Solving Techniques

- Visualize the problem: Draw diagrams or sketches to understand the shape and dimensions.
- Label all given data: Mark known measurements and unknowns clearly.
- Translate words into mathematical expressions: Convert phrases into equations using the formulas.
- Use units consistently: Convert all measurements to the same unit before calculations.
- Estimate before exact calculation: For complex problems, rough estimates can guide your approach.
- Verify the answer: Ensure the solution makes sense logically and contextually.

Common Pitfalls to Avoid

- Confusing perimeter with area.
- Using incorrect formulas for the shape.
- Forgetting to convert units.
- Misreading the problem's data.
- Ignoring the need for perpendicular height in parallelogram problems.

Sample Word Problems and Solutions

Problem 1: Area of a Rectangle

Question: A rectangle has a length of 12 meters and a width of 5 meters. Find its area.

Solution:

- Step 1: Identify given data: Length = 12 m, Width = 5 m.
- Step 2: Recall formula: Area = length $\times$ width.
- Step 3: Calculate: Area = $12 \times 5 = 60 \text{ m}^2$.
- Answer: The rectangle's area is 60 square meters.

Problem 2: Area of a Square

Question: A square garden has a side length of 8 meters. What is the area?

Solution:

- Step 1: Given: Side = 8 m.
- Step 2: Formula: Area = side².
- Step 3: Calculation: $8^2 = 64 \text{ m}^2$.
- Answer: The garden covers 64 square meters.

Problem 3: Area of a Parallelogram

Question: A parallelogram has a base of 15 meters and a height of 6 meters. Find its area.

Solution:

- Step 1: Given: Base = 15 m, Height = 6 m.
- Step 2: Formula: Area = base $\times$ height.
- Step 3: Calculation: $15 \times 6 = 90 \text{ m}^2$.
- Answer: The parallelogram's area is 90 square meters.

Problem 4: Word Problem Combining Shapes

Question: A rectangular park measures 200 meters in length and 150 meters in width. A square playground of side length 30 meters is within the park. Find the area of the remaining part of the park after excluding the playground.

Solution:

- Step 1: Calculate park area: $200 \times 150 = 30,000 \text{ m}^2$.
- Step 2: Calculate playground area: $30^2 = 900 \text{ m}^2$.
- Step 3: Subtract playground area from park area: $30,000 - 900 = 29,100 \text{ m}^2$.

- Answer: The remaining area of the park is 29,100 square meters.

Advanced Word Problems and Applications

Problem 5: Multiple Shapes in a Real-World Context

A farmer has a rectangular field measuring 500 meters by 300 meters. Within it, there is a parallelogram-shaped pond with a base of 100 meters and a height of 40 meters. Find the area of the field that is not occupied by the pond.

Solution:

- Step 1: Calculate total field area: $500 \times 300 = 150,000 \text{ m}^2$.
- Step 2: Calculate pond area: $100 \times 40 = 4,000 \text{ m}^2$.
- Step 3: Subtract pond area from total field: $150,000 - 4,000 = 146,000 \text{ m}^2$.
- Answer: The area of the field excluding the pond is 146,000 square meters.

Problem 6: Applying Area in Construction

A construction company needs to lay tiles on a square kitchen floor of side length 9 meters. If each tile covers 0.25 m^2 , how many tiles are needed to cover the entire floor?

Solution:

- Step 1: Calculate floor area: $9^2 = 81 \text{ m}^2$.
- Step 2: Determine number of tiles: $81 \div 0.25 = 324$ tiles.
- Answer: 324 tiles are required to cover the floor.

Additional Tips for Mastering Word Problems on Area

- Practice regularly: The more problems you solve, the better you understand different scenarios.
- Use diagrams: Visual representation helps in understanding complex problems.
- Understand the context: Real-world problems often contain clues that guide your calculations.
- Check units and conversions: Mistakes often occur due to incorrect units.
- Review formulas: Be sure about the formulas for different shapes and their conditions.

Conclusion

Mastering the area of rectangles, squares, and parallelograms through word problems enhances your mathematical skills and prepares you for tackling real-life situations involving space and measurements. Remember to approach each problem methodically, visualize the shapes involved, and apply the correct formulas. With consistent practice and attention to detail, solving word problems related to the area of these shapes becomes intuitive and rewarding. By understanding these fundamental concepts, you develop a strong foundation for more advanced geometry and problem-solving tasks.

Word Problems in Area of Rectangle, Square, and Parallelogram: A Comprehensive Guide

Understanding how to solve word problems related to the area of rectangles, squares, and parallelograms is a fundamental skill in geometry that combines conceptual understanding with practical problem-solving. These problems are often encountered in academic assessments and real-life scenarios, making mastery in this area essential for students and enthusiasts alike. This comprehensive guide delves into the various aspects of word problems involving the areas of these quadrilaterals, offering detailed explanations, strategies, and examples to enhance your problem-solving toolkit.

Introduction to Area in Quadrilaterals

Before diving into specific word problems, it's crucial to understand what area signifies in the context of rectangles, squares, and parallelograms.

What is Area?

- Definition: Area refers to the amount of surface covered by a two-dimensional shape. It is measured in square units (e.g., square meters, square centimeters).
- Significance: Knowing the area helps in tasks such as flooring, painting, land measurement, and design.

General Formulas

- Rectangle: $\text{Area} = \text{length} \times \text{breadth}$
- Square: $\text{Area} = \text{side}^2$
- Parallelogram: $\text{Area} = \text{base} \times \text{height}$

Note: For parallelograms, the height is perpendicular to the base, which is a key aspect in solving problems.

Understanding Word Problems: Key Concepts and Strategies

Word problems require translating real-world language into mathematical expressions. Here's a structured approach:

Step-by-Step Problem-Solving Strategy

- Read Carefully: Understand what is being asked. Identify the given data and what you need to find.
- Identify the Shape: Recognize whether the problem involves a rectangle, square, or parallelogram.
- Highlight Known Values: Mark the given dimensions, areas, or other relevant information.
- Determine Unknowns: Decide which dimensions or measurements need to be calculated.
- Choose the Correct Formula: Select the appropriate area formula based on the shape.
- Set Up Equations: Translate the problem into mathematical equations.
- Solve the Equations: Perform calculations step-by-step.
- Check Units and Reasonableness: Make sure the units are consistent and the answer makes sense in context.
- Answer in Context: Write the final answer with appropriate units and interpret it if necessary.

Word Problems Involving Rectangles

Rectangles are the most straightforward among these shapes, and their word problems often involve calculating area based on given dimensions or vice versa.

Common Types of Rectangular Area Problems

- Finding the area given length and breadth
- Finding missing dimensions when the area and one dimension are known
- Determining the length or breadth when the area and other dimension are known

Sample Problems and Solutions

Problem 1: A rectangle has a length of 12 meters and a breadth of 5 meters. Find its area.

Solution:

- Use the formula: $\text{Area} = \text{length} \times \text{breadth}$

- $(\text{Area} = 12 \times 5 = 60)$ square meters

Problem 2: The area of a rectangle is 84 square meters, and its length is 12 meters. Find its breadth.

Solution:

- Rearrange the formula: $(\text{breadth} = \frac{\text{Area}}{\text{length}})$
- $(\text{breadth} = \frac{84}{12} = 7)$ meters

Real-Life Application

- Calculating the area of a garden with given dimensions.
- Determining the amount of material needed for a rectangular tablecloth.

Word Problems Involving Squares

Squares are special rectangles with all sides equal. Their word problems often involve the side length or the area, with the relationship $(\text{Area} = \text{side}^2)$.

Common Types of Square Area Problems

- Finding area when side length is known
- Finding side length when area is given
- Application in tiling, fencing, and design

Sample Problems and Solutions

Problem 3: The side of a square playground is 20 meters. Find its area.

Solution:

- Use $(\text{Area} = \text{side}^2)$
- $(\text{Area} = 20^2 = 400)$ square meters

Problem 4: A square piece of land has an area of 256 square meters. Find the length of one side.

Solution:

- $\text{side} = \sqrt{\text{area}}$
- $\text{side} = \sqrt{256} = 16$ meters

Practical Applications

- Calculating the amount of paint needed to cover a square wall.
- Determining the size of tiles required for a square floor.

Word Problems Involving Parallelograms

Parallelograms have a more complex area formula involving base and height. Their word problems often include scenarios where height is not directly given, requiring the use of auxiliary data or geometric reasoning.

Common Types of Parallelogram Area Problems

- Calculating area when base and height are known
- Finding missing height or base when the area and other dimensions are given
- Using diagonal and side lengths to find area

Key Concepts for Parallelogram Problems

- The height is perpendicular to the base, not necessarily the side length.
- Sometimes, the problem involves the use of other properties, such as diagonals or angles.

Sample Problems and Solutions

Problem 5: A parallelogram has a base of 15 meters and a height of 8 meters. Find its area.

Solution:

- $\text{Area} = \text{base} \times \text{height}$
- $\text{Area} = 15 \times 8 = 120$ square meters

Problem 6: The area of a parallelogram is 180 square meters, and the base length is 12 meters. Find the height.

Solution:

- $\text{height} = \frac{\text{Area}}{\text{base}}$
- $\text{height} = \frac{180}{12} = 15$ meters

Problem 7: In a parallelogram, if the side length is 10 meters and the height is 6 meters, what is the area? (Assume the side length is the base.)

Solution:

- $\text{Area} = \text{base} \times \text{height} = 10 \times 6 = 60$ square meters

Complex Application Problems

- Using diagonals to find the area when height is unknown.
- Estimating land area from irregular measurements involving parallelogram-shaped plots.

Advanced Word Problems and Real-World Applications

Real-life scenarios often involve combining multiple shapes and dimensions, requiring critical thinking and multi-step calculations.

Examples of Complex Word Problems

Example 1: A rectangular garden measures 50 meters in length and 30 meters in width. A path of uniform width surrounds the garden, increasing its total area to 2,500 square meters. Find the width of the path.

Solution Approach:

- Let w be the width of the path.
- Total dimensions including the path: $(50 + 2w)$ and $(30 + 2w)$.
- Set up the equation: $(50 + 2w)(30 + 2w) = 2500$.
- Expand and solve the quadratic:

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$$(50 + 2w)(30 + 2w) = 2500$$

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$$1500 + 100w + 60w + 4w^2 = 2500$$

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$$4w^2 + 160w + 1500 = 2500$$

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$$4w^2 + 160w - 1000 = 0$$

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- Divide through by 4:

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$$w^2 + 40w - 250 = 0$$

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- Use quadratic formula:

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$$w = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{40^2 - 4 \times 1 \times (-250)}}{2}$$

\]

$$w = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{1600 + 1000}}{2} = \frac{-40 \pm \sqrt{2600}}{2}$$

- Approximate:

$$\sqrt{2600} \approx 50.99$$

- Possible solutions:

$$w = \frac{-40 + 50.99}{2} \approx \frac{10.99}{2} \approx 5.495$$

$$w = \frac{-40 - 50.99}{2} \approx \frac{-90.99}{2}$$

Question How do you find the area of a rectangle with length 8 meters and width 5 meters? Multiply the length by the width: $8 \times 5 = 40$ square meters. A square has a perimeter of 36 meters. What is its area? First, find the side length: $36 \div 4 = 9$ meters. Then, $\text{area} = 9 \times 9 = 81$ square meters. If the base of a parallelogram is 10 cm and the height is 7 cm, what is its area? $\text{Area} = \text{base} \times \text{height} = 10 \times 7 = 70$ square centimeters. A rectangle's length is twice its width. If the area is 48 square meters, what are the dimensions? Let width = w , then length = $2w$. $\text{Area} = w \times 2w = 2w^2 = 48$. So, $w^2 = 24$, $w \approx 4.9$ meters. Length ≈ 9.8 meters. How do you determine the area of a parallelogram given the diagonals and the angle between them? Use the formula: $\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} \times d_1 \times d_2 \times \sin(\text{angle between diagonals})$. What is the area of a square with a diagonal length of $10\sqrt{2}$ cm? Diagonal = $s\sqrt{2}$, so $s = \text{diagonal} / \sqrt{2} = 10\sqrt{2} / \sqrt{2} = 10$ cm. $\text{Area} = s^2 = 10 \times 10 = 100$ square centimeters. A rectangle has a length of 15 meters and an area of 150 square meters. What is its width? Width = $\text{area} \div \text{length} = 150 \div 15 = 10$ meters. How do you find the area of a rhombus if you know the lengths of its diagonals? $\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} \times d_1 \times d_2$, where d_1 and d_2 are the diagonals. In a

parallelogram, if the base is 12 cm and the height is 9 cm, what is its area? $\text{Area} = \text{base} \times \text{height} = 12 \times 9 = 108$ square centimeters.

Related keywords: area calculation, perimeter, geometry, shape problems, algebra, rectangles, squares, parallelograms, formulas, math exercises

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