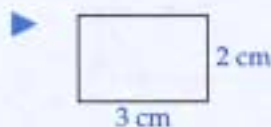# 15 Area of Rectangles and Parallelograms

Here's How

Area is the number of square units needed to cover a shape or figure.

Find the area of this rectangle.
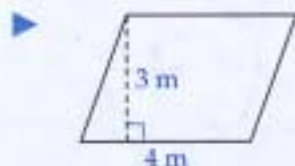
▶

2 cm

3 cm

The **length** (*l*) of this rectangle is 3 cm.
The **width** (*w*) of this rectangle is 2 cm.

This is the formula for finding the area of a rectangle. *Area equals length times width.*

▶ $A = l \cdot w$
$= 3 \text{ cm} \cdot 2 \text{ cm}$
$= 6 \text{ cm}^2$

Use this formula to find the **area** (*A*) of a rectangle.
It takes 6 square centimeters to cover this rectangle. The area is 6 cm^2.

Find the area of this parallelogram.

▶

3 m

4 m

The **base** (*b*) of this parallelogram is 4 m.
The **height** (*h*) of this parallelogram is 3 m.

This is the formula for finding the area of a parallelogram. *Area equals base times height.*
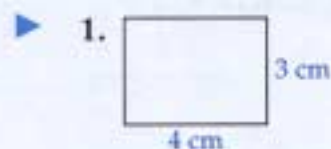
▶ $A = b \cdot h$
$= 4 \text{ m} \cdot 3 \text{ m}$
$= 12 \text{ cm}^2$

Use this formula to find the area of a parallelogram.
The area is 12 square meters, or 12 m^2.

Try These

Find each area.
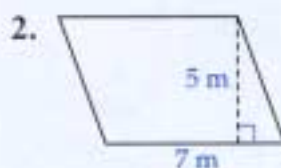
Be sure to include *cm*^{2} or *m*^{2} in your answer.

▶ 1.

3 cm

4 cm

$A = 4 \text{ cm} \cdot 3 \text{ cm}$

= _____

2.

5 m

7 m

$A = 7 \text{ m} \cdot 5 \text{ m}$

= _____

Answers: 1. 12 cm^2 2. 35 m^2

Go Ahead

Find each area.

1.

4 m

5 m

$A =$ _____

2.

10 cm

5 cm

$A =$ _____

3.

5 m

6 m

$A =$ _____

4.

3 cm

4 cm

$A =$ _____
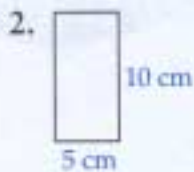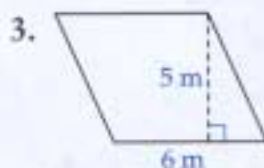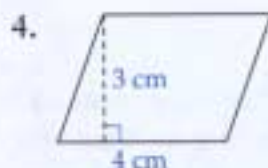
Since the sides of a square all have the same measure, use the formula $A = s \cdot s$.

▶ 5.

3 cm

3 cm

$A =$ _____

6.

5 m

5 m

$A =$ _____

7.

7.5 m

8.5 m

$A =$ _____

8.

2 cm

8 cm

$A =$ _____
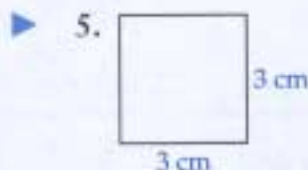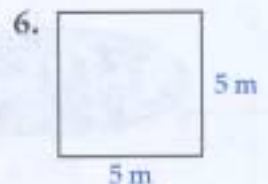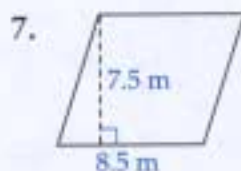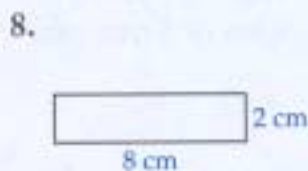
9. The storage area of a moving van is 6 meters long and 3 meters wide. How many square meters of storage space does the van have?

_____