Square Encyclopedia Article

Square

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Square

A square is a rectangle with all sides equal. A square with side *a* has **perimeter** 4 *a* and **area** *a2*.

The square is used as the unit of area; that is, a figure's area is expressed as the number of equal squares of some standard, such as square inches or square meters, that the figure can contain. In Greek **geometry**, the area of a figure was determined by converting the figure to a square of the same area. This is easily accomplished for triangles, rectangles, and other **polygons**, but is often impossible for other figures, such as circles.