

# Design Dimensions Lab

Use area, perimeter, and ratios to make designs fit.

**HIGH SCHOOL • HSG-MG.A.3**

**CCSS.Math.Content.HSG-MG.A.3** "Apply geometric methods to solve design problems (e.g., designing an object or structure to satisfy physical constraints or minimize cost; working with typographic grid systems based on ratios). \*"

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## TURN LIMITS INTO EQUATIONS

Translate each design limit into an equation before solving. If a rectangle has side ratio  $a:b$ , write its sides as  $ax$  and  $bx$ , then use area or perimeter to find  $x$ . For a fixed perimeter, a square gives the greatest possible area among rectangles.

## WORKED EXAMPLE

A rectangular mural has a width-to-length ratio of 7:11 and an area of 1,232 square feet. Find its dimensions.

1. Let the width be  $7x$  and the length be  $11x$ .
2. Area:  $(7x)(11x) = 1,232$ , so  $77x^2 = 1,232$ .
3.  $x^2 = 16$ , so  $x = 4$  because a length is positive.
4. Width = 28 feet and length = 44 feet.

**Answer: 28 feet by 44 feet**

## PRACTICE 6 problems

- 1** A rectangular garden bed has a width-to-length ratio of 3:8 and an area of 864 square feet. Find its dimensions.

**ANSWER** \_\_\_\_\_

- 2** A rectangular display has a width-to-length ratio of 9:13 and an area of 1,053 square inches. Find its dimensions.

**ANSWER** \_\_\_\_\_

- 3** A rectangular practice court has a width-to-length ratio of 3:9 and a perimeter of 72 meters. Find its dimensions.

**ANSWER** \_\_\_\_\_

- 4** A rectangular community garden is 15 feet longer than it is wide and has an area of 756 square feet. Find its dimensions.

**ANSWER** \_\_\_\_\_

- 5** A rectangular dog run must have a perimeter of 68 meters. What dimensions give the greatest possible area, and what is that area?

**ANSWER** \_\_\_\_\_

- 6** A rectangular banner has a width-to-length ratio of 1:2 and an area of 288 square inches. Find its perimeter.

**ANSWER** \_\_\_\_\_

## APPLY IT Show your work

- 1** The theater club is making a rectangular photo-booth backdrop. Its width-to-length ratio must be 3:5, and it must use exactly 128 inches of trim around all four sides. Find the backdrop's dimensions and area.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

- 2** A student group orders a rectangular custom sign for a skate event. The sign's length is 3 times its width, and its area is 432 square inches. Printing costs \$2 per square inch, and border material costs \$1 per inch. Find the dimensions and total cost.

WORK SPACE

ANSWER \_\_\_\_\_

## CHALLENGE One step up

### CHALLENGE

Two rectangular banners each have an area of 216 square inches. Banner A has a width-to-length ratio of 2:3. Banner B has a width-to-length ratio of 3:8. Border material costs \$3 per inch. Which banner costs less to border, and how much less does it cost? Show enough work to justify your choice.

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## PART 1 • PRACTICE

| # | PROBLEM                                                                                                                           | ANSWER                                           |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | A rectangular garden bed has a width-to-length ratio of 3:8 and an area of 864 square feet. Find its dimensions.                  | <b>18 feet by 48 feet</b>                        |
| 2 | A rectangular display has a width-to-length ratio of 9:13 and an area of 1,053 square inches. Find its dimensions.                | <b>27 inches by 39 inches</b>                    |
| 3 | A rectangular practice court has a width-to-length ratio of 3:9 and a perimeter of 72 meters. Find its dimensions.                | <b>9 meters by 27 meters</b>                     |
| 4 | A rectangular community garden is 15 feet longer than it is wide and has an area of 756 square feet. Find its dimensions.         | <b>21 feet by 36 feet</b>                        |
| 5 | A rectangular dog run must have a perimeter of 68 meters. What dimensions give the greatest possible area, and what is that area? | <b>17 meters by 17 meters; 289 square meters</b> |
| 6 | A rectangular banner has a width-to-length ratio of 1:2 and an area of 288 square inches. Find its perimeter.                     | <b>72 inches</b>                                 |

## PART 2 • APPLY IT

- 24 inches by 40 inches; 960 square inches** Let the dimensions be  $3x$  and  $5x$ . The perimeter equation  $2(3x + 5x) = 128$  gives  $x = 8$ , so the area is  $24 \times 40 = 960$  square inches.
- 12 inches by 36 inches; \$960** Let the width be  $x$  and the length be  $3x$ , so  $3x^2 = 432$  and  $x = 12$ . Printing costs \$864, and the 96-inch border costs \$96, for a total of \$960.

## CHALLENGE

**Banner A costs less. Banner A is 12 inches by 18 inches, so its border costs  $60 \times \$3 = \$180$ . Banner B is 9 inches by 24 inches, so its border costs  $66 \times \$3 = \$198$ . Banner A costs \$18 less.**

Accept dimensions in either order when the problem does not name width and length separately. For the maximum-area item, accept a correct statement that a square has the greatest area for a fixed rectangular perimeter.