

Calculating the areas of rectangles and triangles

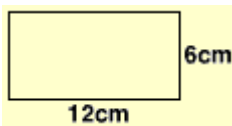
You have learnt how to find the areas of rectangles and triangles by counting squares. However, sometimes you will have to calculate the areas of shapes **without** using a grid.

Rectangles

The formula for the area of a rectangle is:

$$\text{Area} = \text{base} \times \text{height}.$$

The area of this rectangle is 72cm^2 ($12 \times 6 = 72$).



Triangles

To find the area of a triangle, you use the formula:

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

Remember another way to find the area of a triangle, first make it into a rectangle, then divide by 2.

The area of this triangle is 20cm^2 :

$$\frac{1}{2}(10 \times 4) = 20$$

