

6.1 Finding Square Roots

Essential Question How can you find the side length of a square when you are given the area of the square?

When you multiply a number by itself, you square the number.

Symbol for squaring is 2nd power.

$$4^2 = 4 \cdot 4$$

$$= 16$$

4 squared is 16.

To “undo” this, take the **square root** of the number.

Symbol for square root is a radical sign.

$$\sqrt{16} = \sqrt{4^2} = 4$$

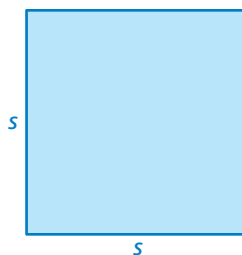
The square root of 16 is 4.

1 ACTIVITY: Finding Square Roots

Work with a partner. Use a square root symbol to write the side length of the square. Then find the square root. Check your answer by multiplying.

a. Sample: $s = \sqrt{121} = 11$ ft

Area = 121 ft²

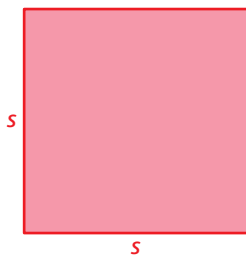


Check

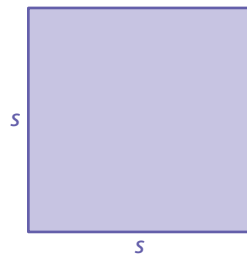
$$\begin{array}{r} 11 \\ \times 11 \\ \hline 11 \\ 110 \\ \hline 121 \end{array} \quad \checkmark$$

∴ The side length of the square is 11 feet.

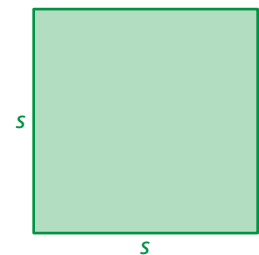
b. Area = 81 yd²



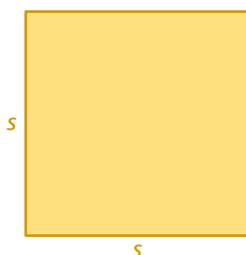
c. Area = 324 cm²



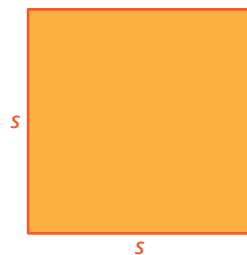
d. Area = 361 mi²



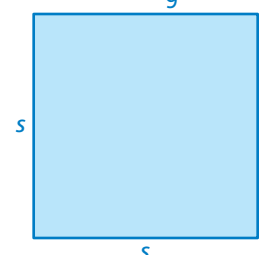
e. Area = 2.89 in.²



f. Area = 4.41 m²



g. Area = $\frac{4}{9}$ ft²



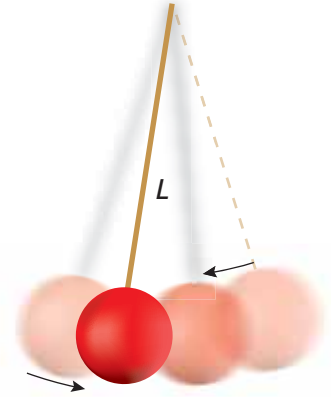
2 ACTIVITY: The Period of a Pendulum

Work with a partner.

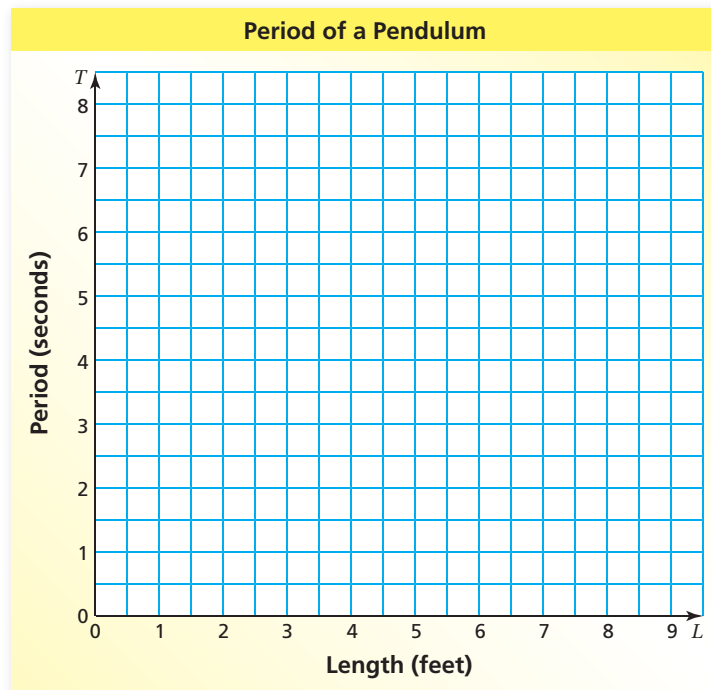
The **period of a pendulum** is the time (in seconds) it takes the pendulum to swing back *and* forth.

The period T is represented by $T = 1.1\sqrt{L}$, where L is the length of the pendulum (in feet).

Copy and complete the table. Then graph the function. Is the function linear?



L	1.00	1.96	3.24	4.00	4.84	6.25	7.29	7.84	9.00
T									



What Is Your Answer?

3. **IN YOUR OWN WORDS** How can you find the side length of a square when you are given the area of the square? Give an example. How can you check your answer?

Practice →

Use what you learned about finding square roots to complete Exercises 4–6 on page 234.

6.1 Lesson

Key Vocabulary

square root, p. 232
perfect square, p. 232
radical sign, p. 232
radicand, p. 232

A **square root** of a number is a number that when multiplied by itself, equals the given number. Every positive number has a positive *and* a negative square root. A **perfect square** is a number with integers as its square roots.

EXAMPLE 1 Finding Square Roots of a Perfect Square

Find the two square roots of 49.

$$7 \cdot 7 = 49 \text{ and } (-7) \cdot (-7) = 49$$

∴ So, the square roots of 49 are 7 and -7 .

The symbol $\sqrt{\quad}$ is called a **radical sign**. It is used to represent a square root. The number under the radical sign is called the **radicand**.

Positive Square Root $\sqrt{\quad}$	Negative Square Root $-\sqrt{\quad}$	Both Square Roots $\pm\sqrt{\quad}$
$\sqrt{16} = 4$	$-\sqrt{16} = -4$	$\pm\sqrt{16} = \pm 4$

Study Tip

Zero has one square root, which is 0.

EXAMPLE 2 Finding Square Roots

Find the square root(s).

a. $\sqrt{25}$

∴ Because $5^2 = 25$, $\sqrt{25} = \sqrt{5^2} = 5$.

$\sqrt{25}$ represents the positive square root.

b. $-\sqrt{\frac{9}{16}}$

∴ Because $\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2 = \frac{9}{16}$, $-\sqrt{\frac{9}{16}} = -\sqrt{\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^2} = -\frac{3}{4}$.

$-\sqrt{\frac{9}{16}}$ represents the negative square root.

c. $\pm\sqrt{2.25}$

∴ Because $1.5^2 = 2.25$, $\pm\sqrt{2.25} = \pm\sqrt{1.5^2} = 1.5$ and -1.5 .

$\pm\sqrt{2.25}$ represents both the positive and negative square roots.

On Your Own

Find the two square roots of the number.

1. 36

2. 100

3. 121

Find the square root(s).

4. $-\sqrt{1}$

5. $\pm\sqrt{\frac{4}{25}}$

6. $\sqrt{12.25}$

Now You're Ready
Exercises 7–16

EXAMPLE 3 Evaluating Expressions Involving Square Roots

Evaluate the expression.

a. $5\sqrt{36} + 7$

$$5\sqrt{36} + 7 = 5(6) + 7$$

Evaluate the square root.

$$= 30 + 7$$

Multiply.

$$= 37$$

Add.

b. $\frac{1}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{18}{2}}$

$$\frac{1}{4} + \sqrt{\frac{18}{2}} = \frac{1}{4} + \sqrt{9}$$

Simplify.

$$= \frac{1}{4} + 3$$

Evaluate the square root.

$$= 3\frac{1}{4}$$

Add.

Squaring a positive number and finding a square root are inverse operations. Use this relationship to solve equations involving squares.

EXAMPLE 4 Real-Life Application



The area of a crop circle is 45,216 square feet. What is the radius of the crop circle? Use 3.14 for π .

$$A = \pi r^2$$

Write the formula for the area of a circle.

$$45,216 \approx 3.14r^2$$

Substitute 45,216 for A and 3.14 for π .

$$14,400 = r^2$$

Divide each side by 3.14.

$$\sqrt{14,400} = \sqrt{r^2}$$

Take positive square root of each side.

$$120 = r$$

Simplify.

∴ The radius of the crop circle is about 120 feet.

On Your Own

Evaluate the expression.

7. $12 - 3\sqrt{25}$

8. $\sqrt{\frac{28}{7}} + 2.4$

9. $5(\sqrt{49} - 10)$

10. The area of a circle is 2826 square feet. Write and solve an equation to find the radius of the circle. Use 3.14 for π .

Now You're Ready
Exercises 18–23

6.1 Exercises

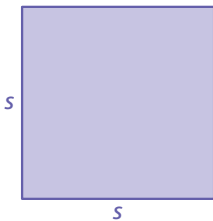
Vocabulary and Concept Check

- VOCABULARY** Is 26 a perfect square? Explain.
- REASONING** Can the square of an integer be a negative number? Explain.
- NUMBER SENSE** Does $\sqrt{256}$ represent the positive square root of 256, the negative square root of 256, or both? Explain.

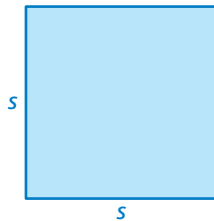
Practice and Problem Solving

Find the side length of the square. Check your answer by multiplying.

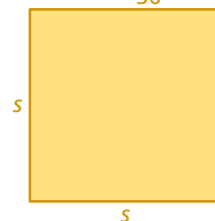
4. Area = 441 cm^2



5. Area = 1.69 km^2



6. Area = $\frac{25}{36} \text{ yd}^2$



Find the two square roots of the number.

1. 9 8. 64 9. 4 10. 144

Find the square root(s).

2. 11. $\sqrt{625}$ 12. $-\sqrt{\frac{9}{100}}$ 13. $\pm\sqrt{\frac{1}{961}}$
 14. $\sqrt{7.29}$ 15. $\pm\sqrt{4.84}$ 16. $-\sqrt{361}$

17. **ERROR ANALYSIS** Describe and correct the error in finding the square roots.

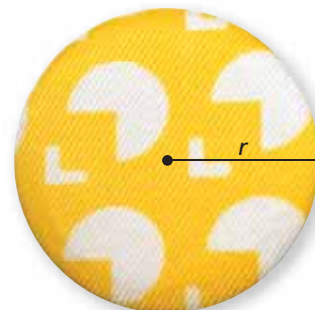
$\pm\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} = \frac{1}{2}$

Evaluate the expression.

3. 18. $3\sqrt{16} - 5$ 19. $10 - 4\sqrt{\frac{1}{16}}$ 20. $\sqrt{6.76} + 5.4$
 21. $8\sqrt{8.41} + 1.8$ 22. $2\left(\sqrt{\frac{80}{5}} - 5\right)$ 23. $4\left(\sqrt{\frac{147}{3}} + 3\right)$

24. **NOTEPAD** The area of the base of a square notepad is 9 square inches. What is the length of one side of the base of the notepad?

25. **CRITICAL THINKING** There are two square roots of 25. Why is there only one answer for the radius of the button?



$A = 25\pi \text{ mm}^2$

Copy and complete the statement with $<$, $>$, or $=$.

26. $\sqrt{81}$ 8

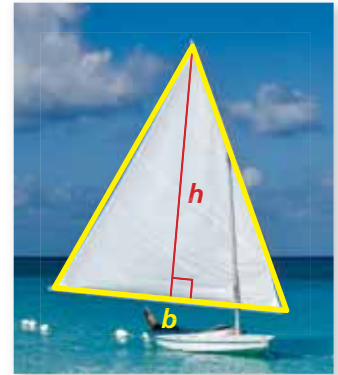
27. 0.5 $\sqrt{0.25}$

28. $\frac{3}{2}$ $\sqrt{\frac{25}{4}}$

29. **SAILBOAT** The area of a sail is $40\frac{1}{2}$ square feet. The base and the height of the sail are equal. What is the height of the sail (in feet)?

30. **REASONING** Is the product of two perfect squares always a perfect square? Explain your reasoning.

31. **ENERGY** The kinetic energy K (in joules) of a falling apple is represented by $K = \frac{v^2}{2}$, where v is the speed of the apple (in meters per second). How fast is the apple traveling when the kinetic energy is 32 joules?

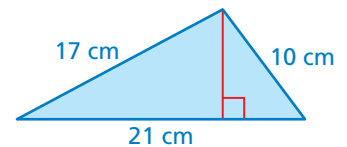


32. **WATCHES** The areas of the two watch faces have a ratio of 16 : 25.

- What is the ratio of the radius of the smaller watch face to the radius of the larger watch face?
- What is the radius of the larger watch face?

33. **WINDOW** The cost C (in dollars) of making a square window with a side length of n inches is represented by $C = \frac{n^2}{5} + 175$. A window costs \$355. What is the length (in feet) of the window?

34. **Geometry** The area of the triangle is represented by the formula $A = \sqrt{s(s - 21)(s - 17)(s - 10)}$, where s is equal to half the perimeter. What is the height of the triangle?



Fair Game Review what you learned in previous grades & lessons

Evaluate the expression.

35. $3^2 + 4^2$

36. $8^2 + 15^2$

37. $13^2 - 5^2$

38. $25^2 - 24^2$

39. **MULTIPLE CHOICE** Which of the following describes the triangle?

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> (A) Acute | <input type="radio"/> (B) Right |
| <input type="radio"/> (C) Obtuse | <input type="radio"/> (D) Equiangular |

