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Date _____

Unit 8 · Shapes and symmetry — glossary

All 18 key words, with a worked example for each.

Term	Meaning	Example
polygon	A closed shape made of straight sides.	<i>A hexagon has 6.</i>
regular polygon	All sides equal and all angles equal.	<i>A square.</i>
vertex	A corner where sides or edges meet.	<i>A cube has 8.</i>
interior angle	An angle inside a polygon at a vertex.	<i>108° in a regular pentagon.</i>
exterior angle	The angle between a side and the next side extended.	<i>They total 360°.</i>
centre	The exact middle of a circle.	<i>Every radius starts there.</i>
radius	The distance from the centre to the edge.	<i>Half the diameter.</i>
diameter	The distance right across through the centre.	<i>Twice the radius.</i>
circumference	The distance all the way round a circle.	<i>Its perimeter.</i>
chord	A straight line joining two points on a circle.	<i>A diameter is the longest.</i>
line of symmetry	A line a shape folds along so the halves match.	<i>A rectangle has 2.</i>
rotational symmetry	Looking the same after a turn about a point.	<i>A square has order 4.</i>
order of rotational symmetry	How many times a shape looks the same in a full turn.	<i>A parallelogram has order 2.</i>
face	A flat surface of a solid.	<i>A cube has 6.</i>
edge	A line where two faces meet.	<i>A cube has 12.</i>
net	A flat shape that folds into a solid.	<i>A cube has 11 nets.</i>
prism	A solid with the same cross-section throughout.	<i>A tent.</i>
pyramid	A solid rising from a base to a single apex.	<i>The Great Pyramid.</i>