

Activity 2.5 MP – Parking it

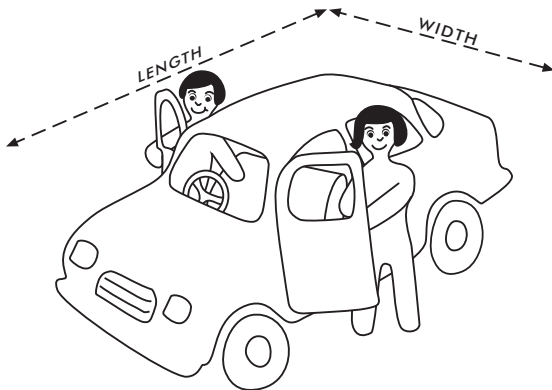
Have you been in a car when the driver has become angry when trying to find a car park?

Sometimes their annoyance can be understood. There aren't enough places for everybody to park their cars. About thirty per cent of the surface area of many Australian cities and towns is made up of driveways, roads and car parks.

That's nearly a third of the area of a town, which means there is a third less space for trees. Trees soak up carbon dioxide and make our environment green.



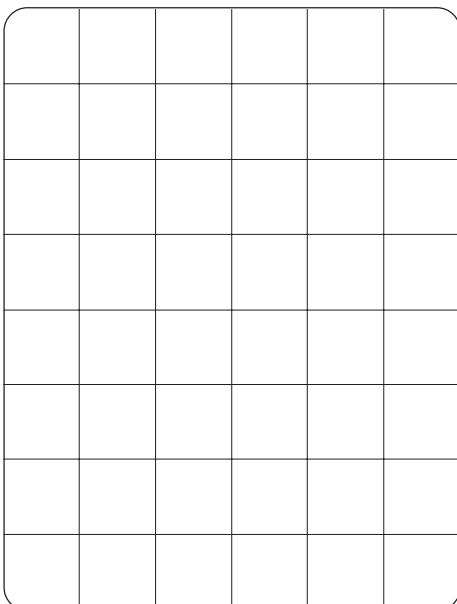
1. Let's find out how much area an average car takes up to park.



- Measure the length and width of a car.
- Include the space required for people to safely exit and enter the vehicle.
- Call each metre one centimetre and draw the size of the car on the grid.
- Multiply the length by the width to get the area. For example, the car was $4 \times 2 = 8\text{m}^2$.

Answer: _____

- Allow for any area required between parked cars.
- Measure a range of car sizes.
- Add all the car areas together and divide by the number of cars to find the average.



Brainstorm ways in which car parking space can be decreased.