

Surface Area of Triangular Prisms

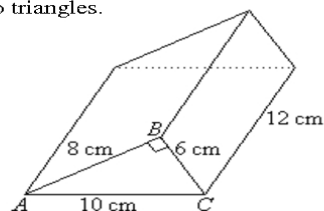
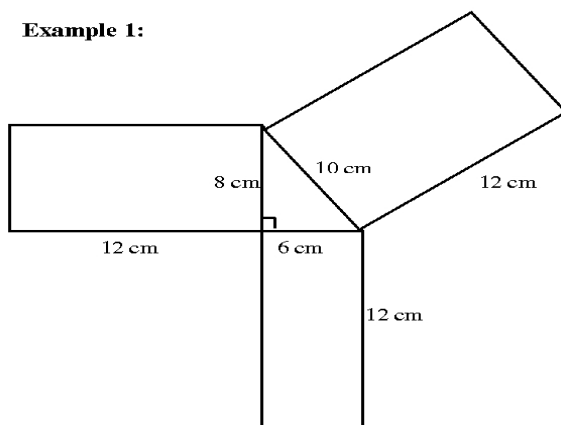
Surface Area of Triangular Prism:

The following website has an interactive visual for the surface area formula of triangular prisms:

<http://www.shodor.org/interactivate/activities/SurfaceAreaAndVolume/>

- To find the surface area of a triangular prism, using a net is helpful. Draw one of the triangular bases with the measurement of each side written down and then draw rectangles from each site. The length of each rectangle is the length of the triangular prism.
- Find the area of each piece, remembering that there are two triangles.
- Add the areas together.

Example 1:



The area of the triangle is $\frac{6 \times 8}{2}$ which is 24 cm^2 .

Since there are two triangles multiply by 2:

The area of the three rectangles are:

8 cm x 12 cm =	96 cm ²
6 cm x 12 cm =	72 cm ²
10 cm x 12 cm =	120 cm ²

Add these to get the surface area:

48 cm ²
96 cm ²
72 cm ²
<u>120 cm²</u>
336 cm ²