

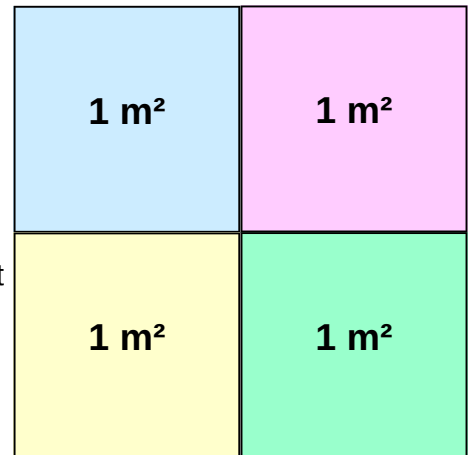
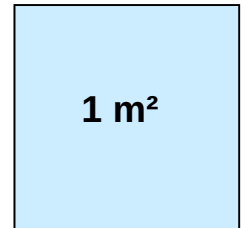
Equipment Needed:

- large pieces of paper (such as newspaper)
- wide tape
- scissors
- metre rulers
- pen or marker



Activity:

1. Form groups of 3-4 students
2. Ask each group to make a square that is a metre by a metre.
 - Give them the tape and ruler and have them work out how to create this area.
 - They will need to create an area larger than a metre and draw a line and cut along it.
2. Tell students this is a square metre. Write "1 m²" in the middle of the square.
3. (Optional) have students paint the square metre. Use different colours for each one if possible, a roller is best.
4. Gather the square metres together and make areas that are 2m², 4m² on the floor
5. Have them estimate how many of these square metres will it take to cover a certain space, such as a room or wall. Place them out and check. Square metre units may to be picked up and reused to cover the space.



Extension activity:

6. A have students cut some of these square metres into different shapes. Cut some squares in half diagonally and form triangles or other polygons, cut others in the middle and make rectangles.

N.B. Students frequently believe that unless it is a square it isn't a square metre. They need to realise that it is the area that is important, not the shape.

