

YOU & MATHS

A square has a perimeter $p > 0$ and area $A = 2p$, then what is the value of p ?

A 24

D 48

B 32

E 54

C 36

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Let us indicate by l the measure of the side of the square. We know that the area of the square can be calculated as

$$A = l^2$$

and its perimeter as

$$p = 4l.$$

By substituting these equalities in the relationship between area and perimeter given by the problem, we get:

$$A = 2p \rightarrow l^2 = 2 \cdot 4l \rightarrow l^2 = 8l,$$

which can be solved as follows:

$$l^2 = 8l \rightarrow l^2 - 8l = 0 \rightarrow l(l - 8) = 0 \rightarrow l = 0 \vee l = 8.$$

As l represents the measure of the side of the square, it must be strictly positive. Therefore l must be equal to 8, which implies that the perimeter p of the square is equal to:

$$p = 4l = 4 \cdot 8 = 32.$$

Our final answer is B.