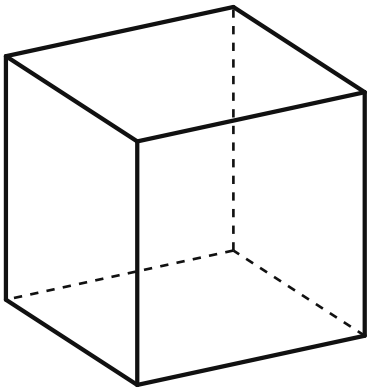
3D Shapes Chart: Flat Faces Only

Point to each face and count. Then count the edges and the vertices.

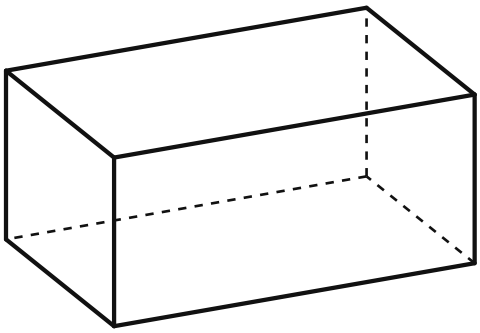


cube

like a die

faces: 6 squares

6 faces, 12 edges, 8 vertices

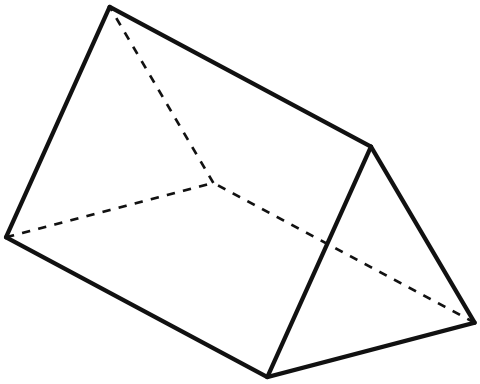


rectangular prism

like a cereal box

faces: 6 rectangles

6 faces, 12 edges, 8 vertices

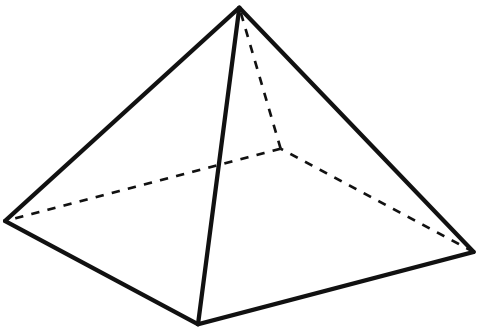


triangular prism

like an A-frame tent

faces: 2 triangles, 3 rectangles

5 faces, 9 edges, 6 vertices



square pyramid

like the pyramids in Egypt

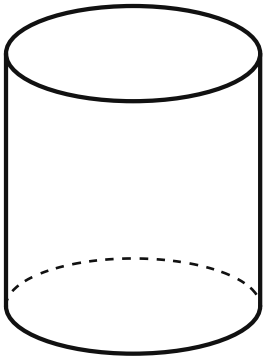
faces: 1 square, 4 triangles

5 faces, 8 edges, 5 vertices

A **face** is a flat side. An **edge** is where two faces meet. A **vertex** is a corner where edges meet; two or more are **vertices**. Dashed lines are at the back.

3D Shapes Chart: Curved Shapes

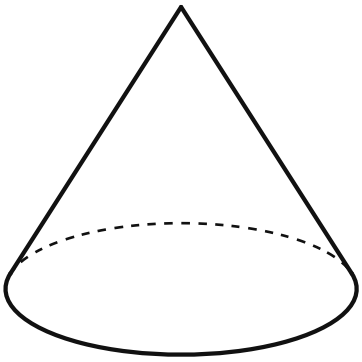
A curved surface rolls. Find something at home that is each shape.



cylinder

like a can

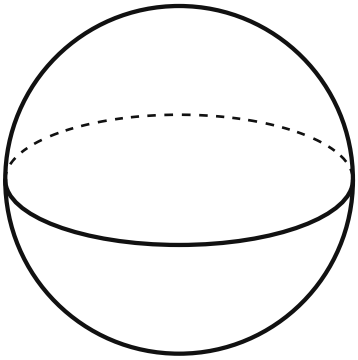
2 flat faces (circles), 1 curved surface, no corners



cone

like an ice cream cone

1 flat face (a circle), 1 curved surface, 1 point



sphere

like a ball

no flat faces, 1 curved surface, no corners

Shapes with a curved surface **roll**. Shapes with only flat faces **stack** and slide.

For Grown-Ups: How to Use These Charts

A chart for the fridge, or beside homework. For kindergarten to second grade.

Why use it

A 3D shape is solid: you can hold it. Common Core names cubes, cones, cylinders, and spheres in kindergarten (K.G.A.2), and Texas uses the words vertex, edge, and face from first grade (1.6(E)). The flat-faced shapes have the same counts in every source; the curved ones are described here in words every chart agrees on.

What it is good for

- The names of seven 3D shapes, each with an everyday example.
- The faces, edges, and vertices of the flat-faced shapes.
- Telling the shapes that roll from the shapes that stack.

How to use it

1. Point to a shape and name it together.
2. Find something at home that is the same shape: a dice, a can, a ball.
3. On the first page, count the faces, edges, and vertices, dashed lines included.
4. Roll a can and slide a box, and talk about which shapes roll.

> **Try saying:** “A can is a cylinder. It has two flat faces that are circles, and it rolls.”

Tip: Some charts count a cylinder's rims as edges and a cone's tip as a vertex, and some do not. Both describe the same shape, so follow your child's class chart.