

Pounamu Pendants

You need: square grid paper, a compass, a calculator

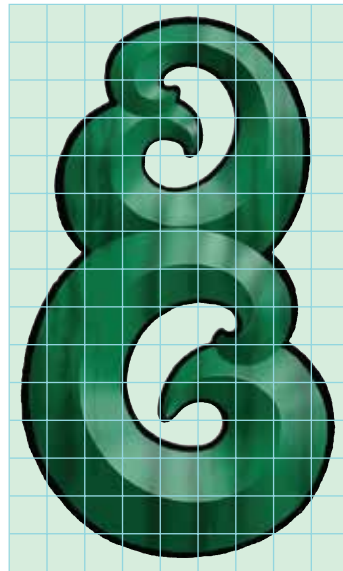
ACTIVITY

For Māori, pounamu (New Zealand greenstone or jade) has spiritual significance as well as beauty. According to tradition, it was once a fish that changed itself into stone when taken from the water.

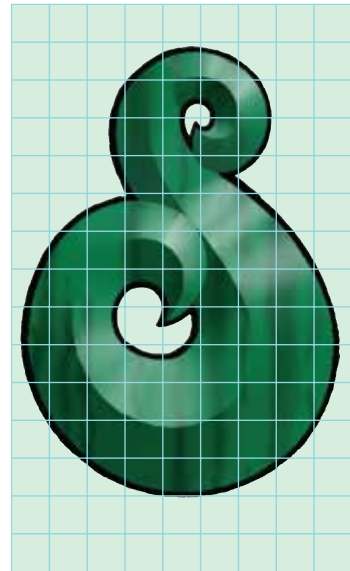
These days, pendants carved from pounamu can be bought in gift shops. The use of modern tools means that the designs can be quite intricate, with much of the original piece of stone carved away.

- In each of the designs below, what percentage of the area of the original rectangular piece of pounamu does the finished pendant use?

a.



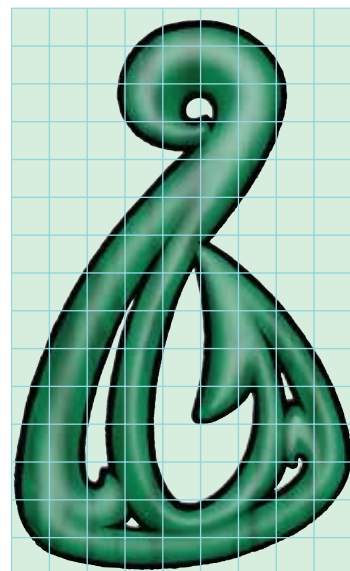
b.



c.



d.



- Find out about traditional pendant designs, and then design one for yourself. What percentage of its original rectangular area is carved away?