For this task, imagine using a number of rods, each with a length of 1 unit.
You will use the rods to create a letter U shape which is symmetrical.

Example 1:

              

   28 rods            U shape       Area of 39 square units

Example 2:

                     

   34 rods                U shape             Area of 57 square units

The following are not allowed as they are not U-shaped:



### Challenge 1

**Using 20 rods** find one U shape which has an area that is an even number of square units and one which has an area that is an odd number of square units.

### Challenge 2

**Using any number of rods find a U shape with an area of 14 square units.**

**Can you find all the U shapes with an area of 14 square units?**

**How do you know you’ve got them all?**