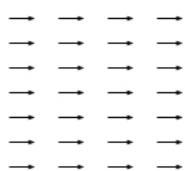


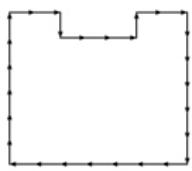


For this task, imagine using a number of rods, each with a length of 1 unit. You will use the rods to create a letter U shape which is symmetrical.

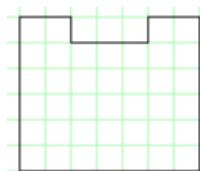
Example 1:



28 rods

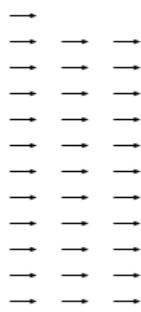


U shape

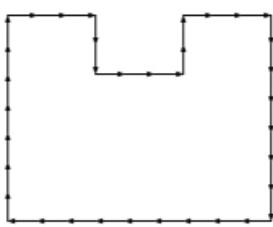


Area of 39 square units

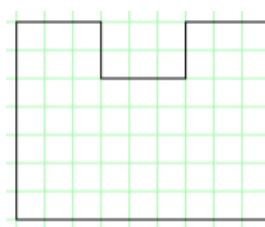
Example 2:



34 rods

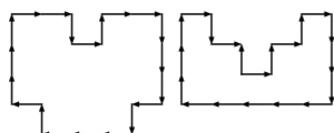


U shape



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?