



# Boat Plans

Technical Drawings & Elevations

## Keys Terms:

Elevations, Scale, Plan, Isometric drawing

[canalrivertrust.org.uk/stem](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/stem)

Canal & River Trust charity number: 1146792

## Boat Plans: Objectives

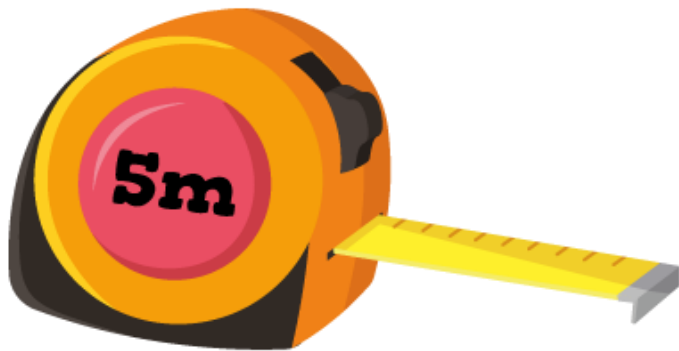
- Recognise why narrowboats have distinct design features.
- Understand how 2D technical drawings are used to represent 3D shapes.
- Learn how to use plans and elevations to gather mathematical information.

The narrowboats on our canals have **many** design similarities.



What characteristics of canals might influence the **measurements** of a boat?

List as many ideas as you can think of.



Here are some factors to consider

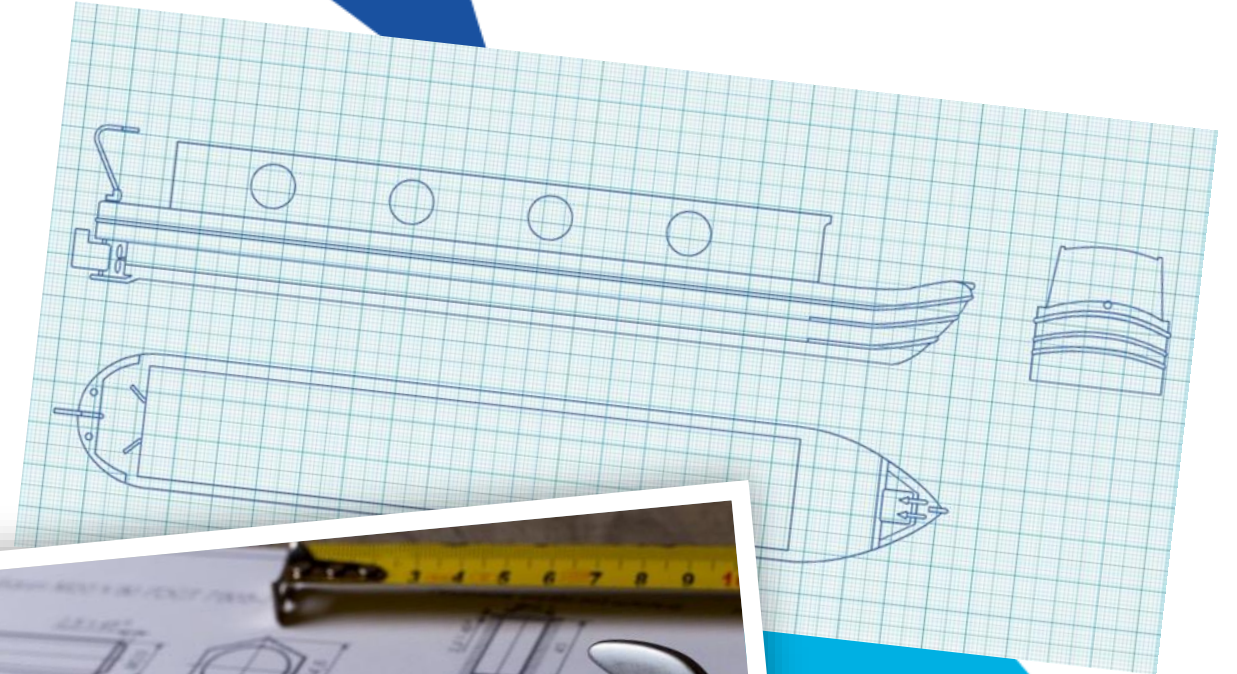
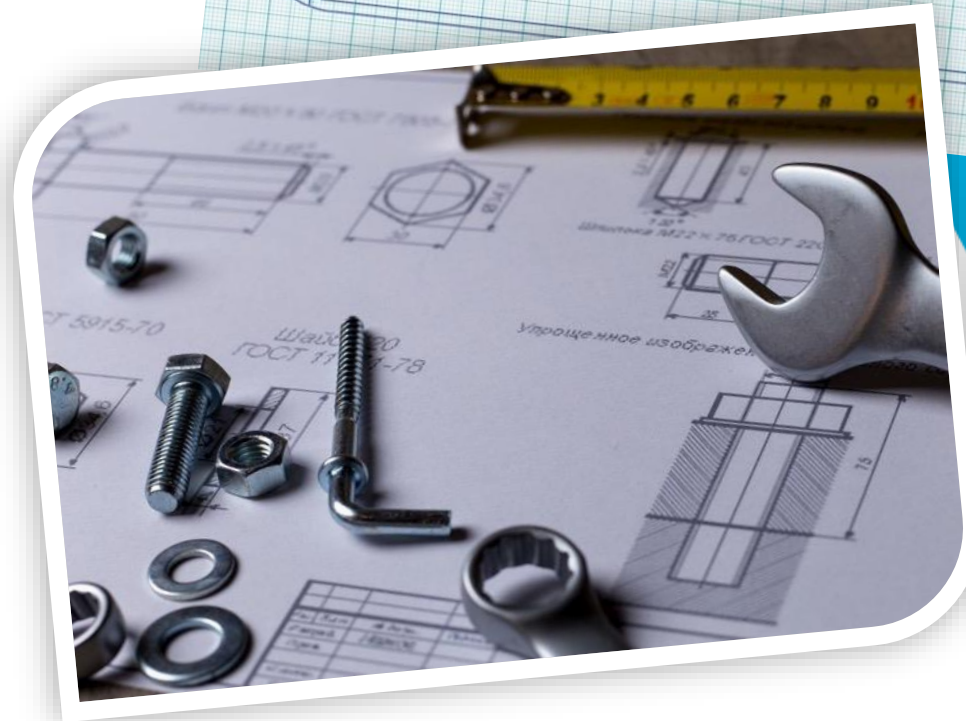
- **Depth of water** – canals are shallow
- **Width of the canal** – canals are narrow
- **Length of locks** – a boat needs to fit into a lock
- **Speed limits** – the hull is designed for stability not speed
- **Height and width of bridges** – bridges and tunnels are small
- **Purpose of boat** – most narrowboats need to carry a lot of weight



Engineers and designers use technical drawings to enable builders and carpenters to construct the boats and structures.

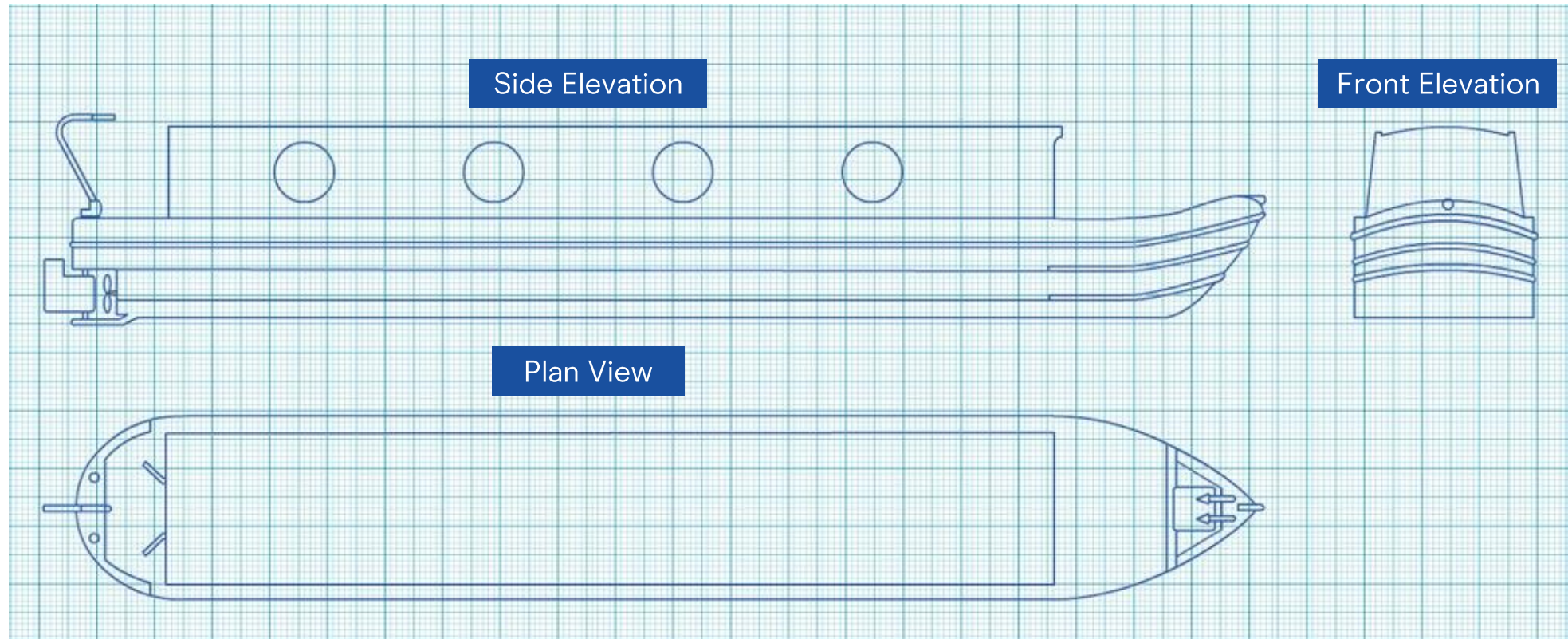
Technical drawings contain **ELEVATIONS** and **PLANS**.

Let's take a closer look.



An ELEVATION is a scale drawing of a 3D object as seen from the front or the side.

A PLAN is a scale drawing of a 3D object as seen from above.

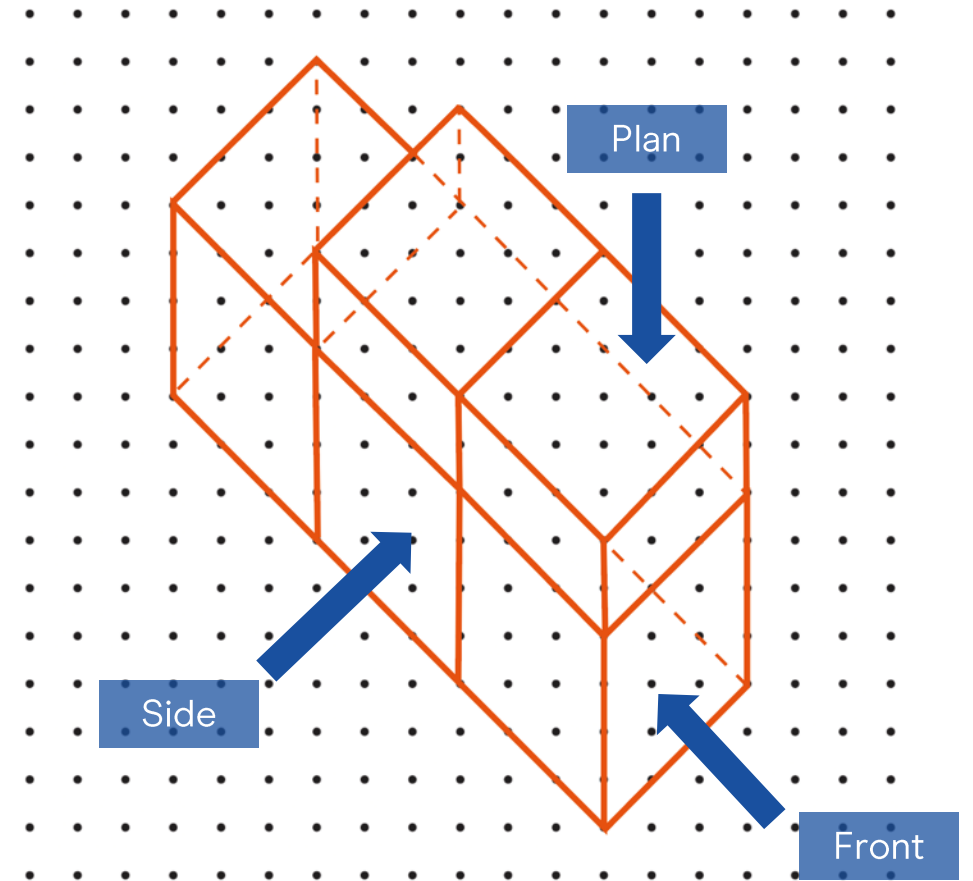


Here's a simpler example:

This 3D shape has been drawn on an isometric grid.

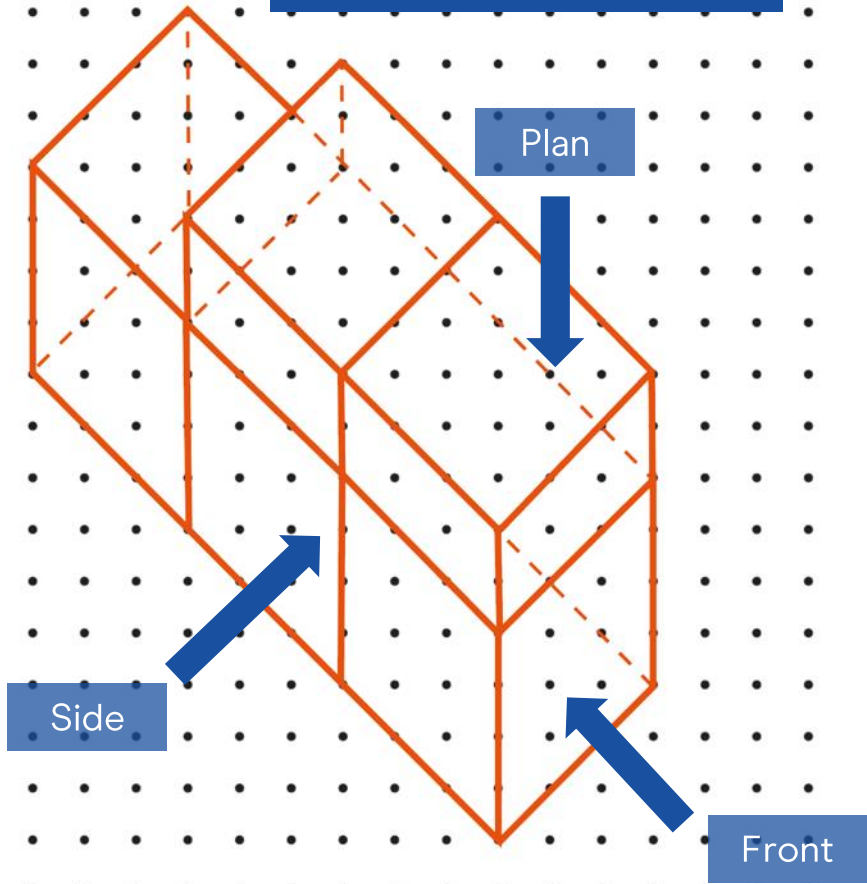
What would the **PLAN VIEW** look like?

What would the **FRONT** and **SIDE ELEVATIONS** look like?

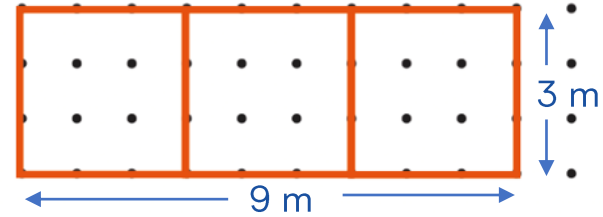




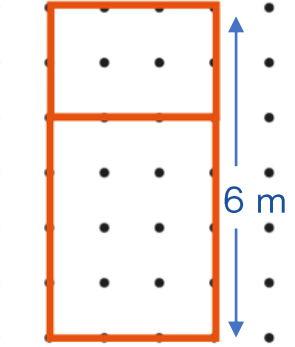
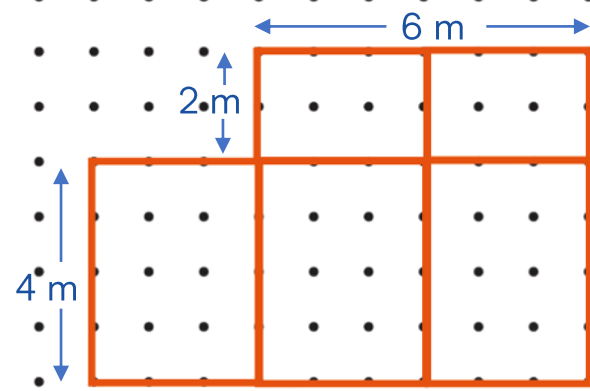
Isometric/3D View



Plan View



Side Elevation



Side Elevation

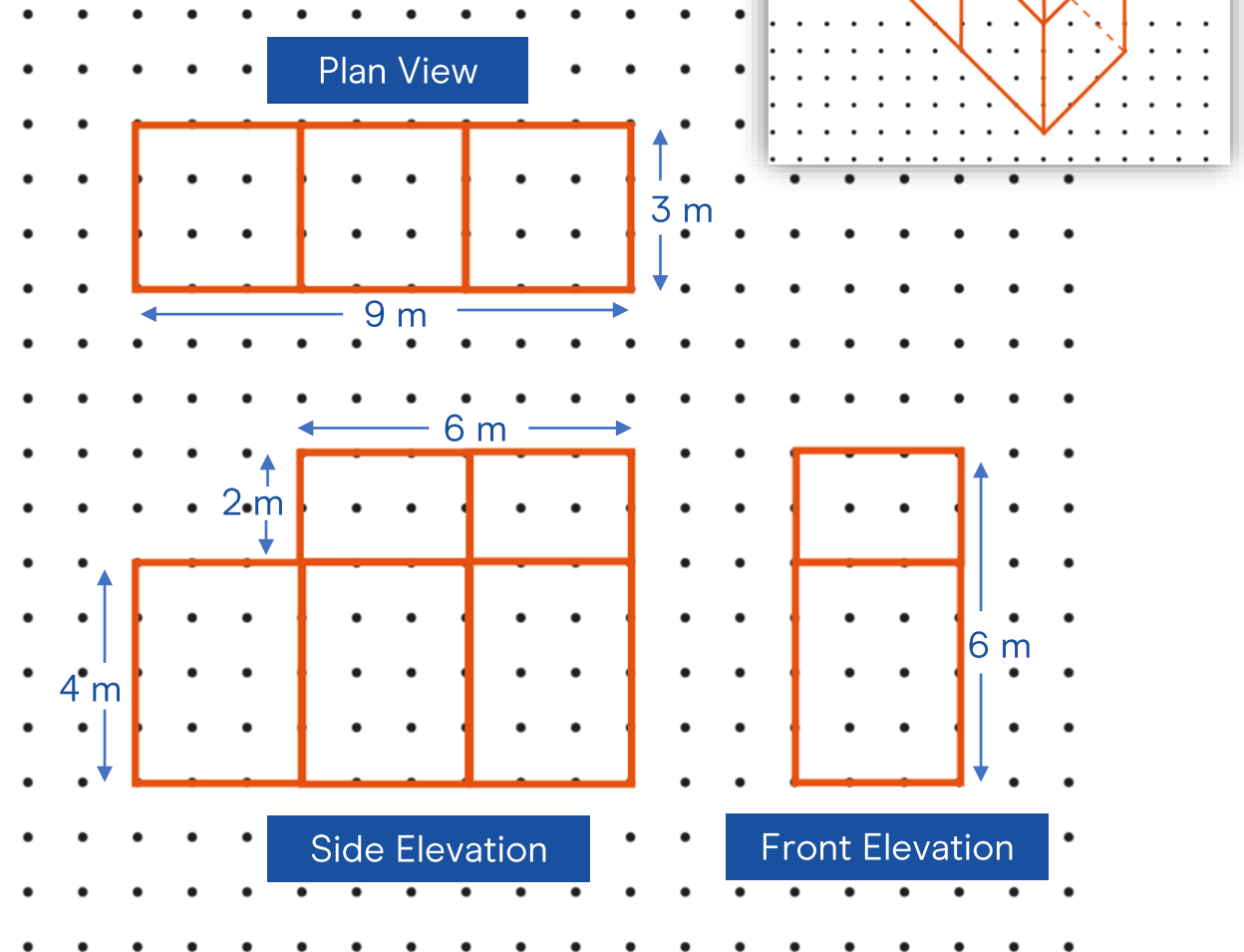
Front Elevation

Plans and elevations help us to understand the dimensions of an object.

1. Work out the **SURFACE AREA** of the side elevation.
2. Work out the **VOLUME** of the entire object.



Break the object into two rectangular/cuboid shapes then add them back together!



## Surface Area Answer:

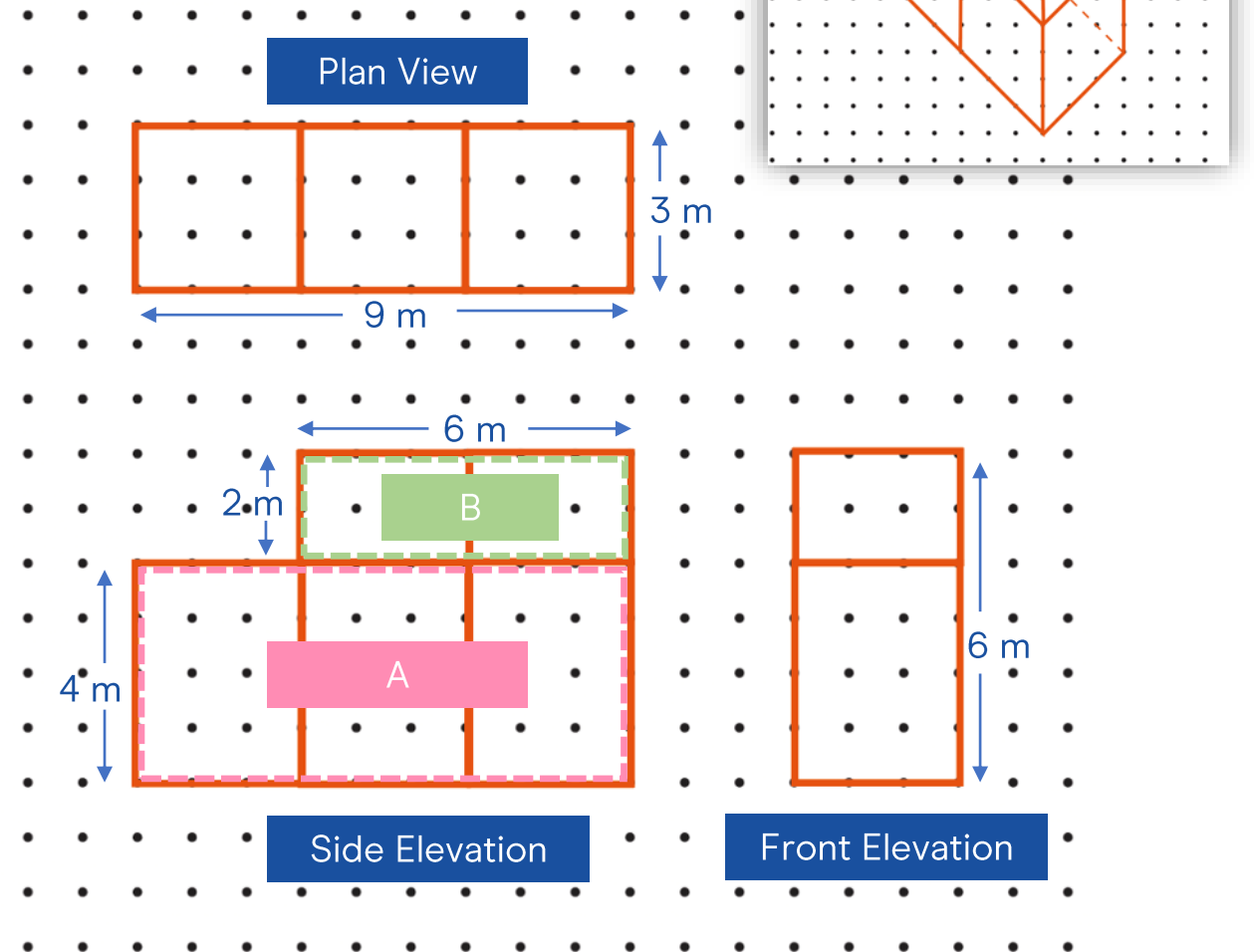
**SURFACE AREA** of the side elevation:

A  $9\text{m} \times 4\text{m} = 36\text{m}^2$

B  $6\text{m} \times 2\text{m} = 12\text{m}^2$

A + B = Surface area

$36\text{m}^2 + 12\text{m}^2 = 48\text{m}^2$



## Volume Answer:

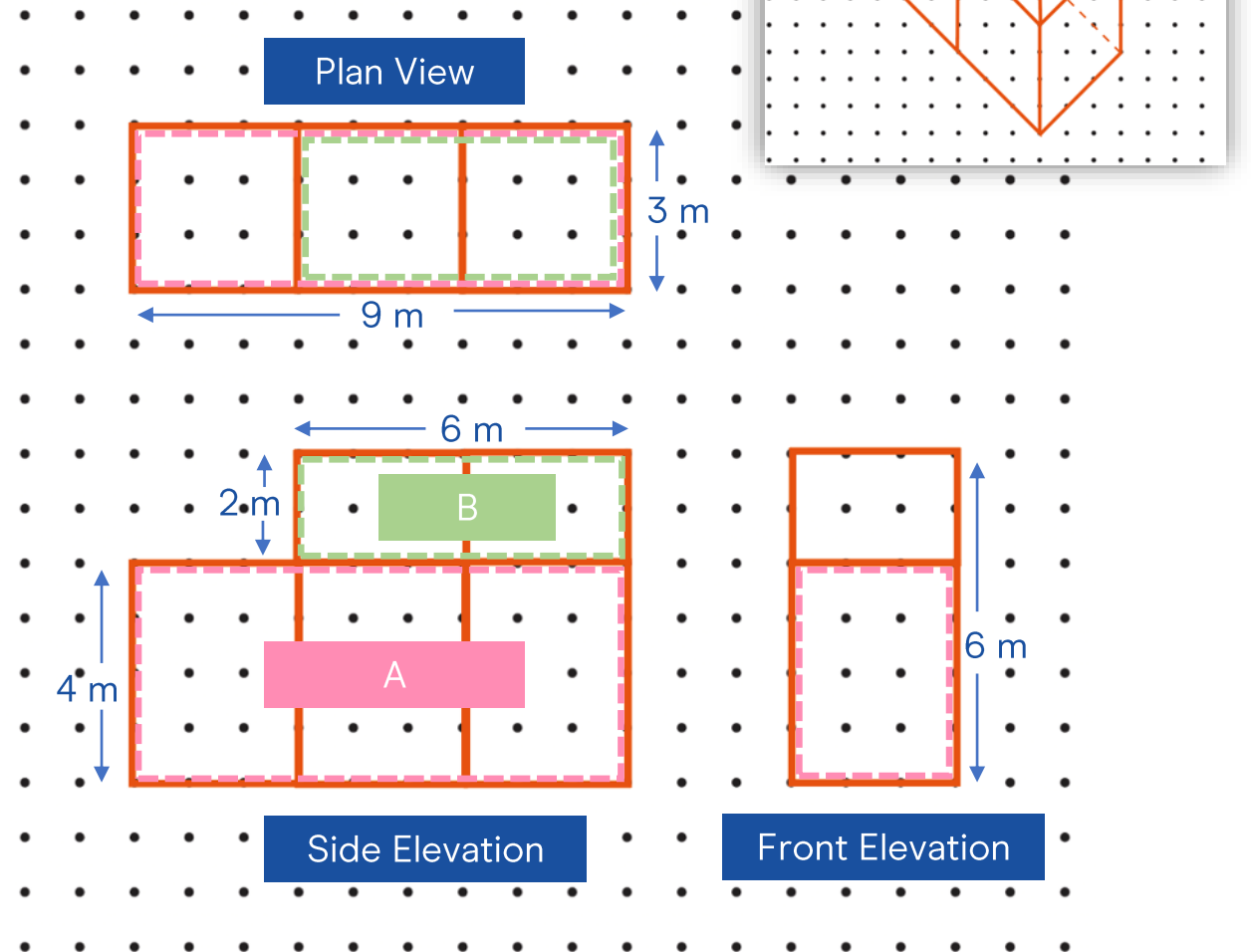
VOLUME of whole object:

A  $9\text{m} \times 3\text{m} \times 4\text{m} = 108^3\text{m}$

B  $6\text{m} \times 3\text{m} \times 2\text{m} = 36^3\text{m}$

A + B = Total volume

$108^3\text{m} + 36^3\text{m} = 144^3\text{m}$

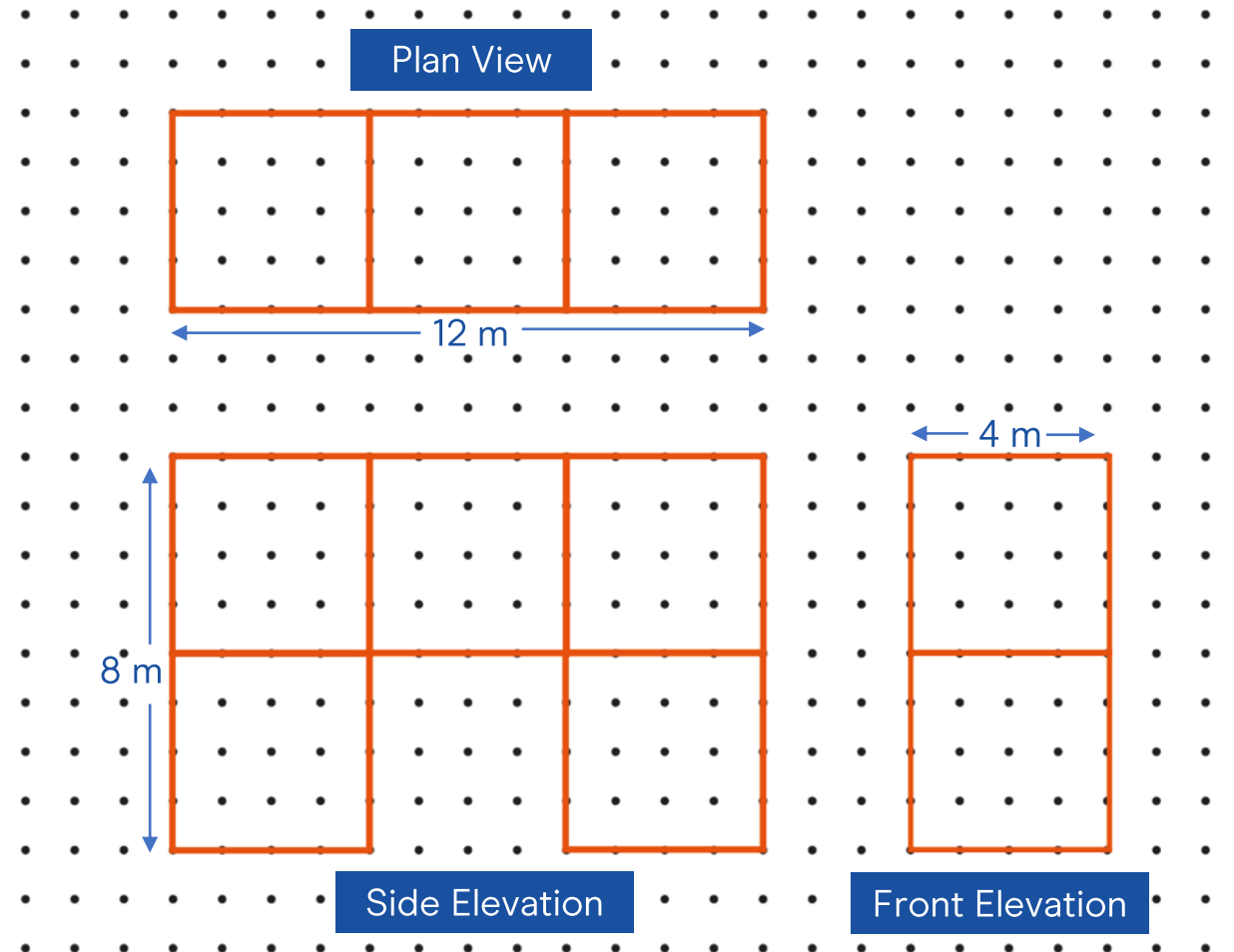


## Here's another example:

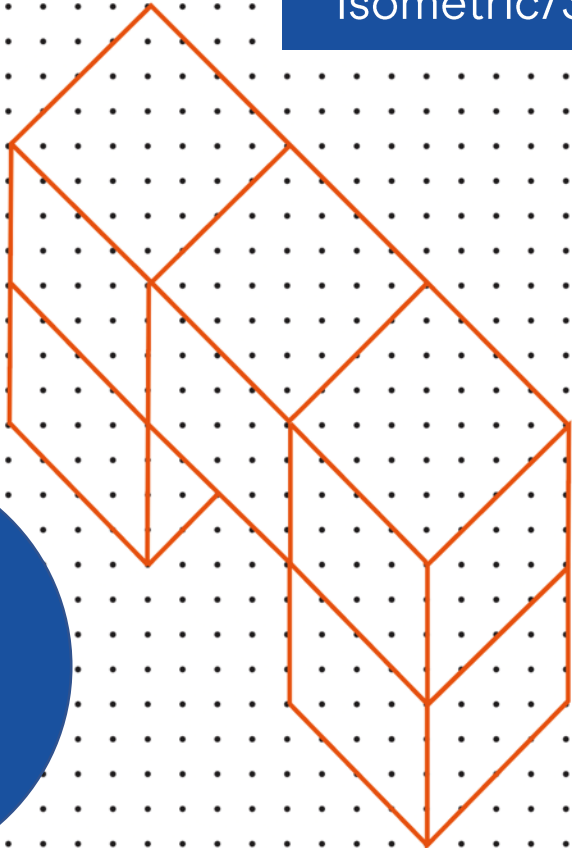
1. Sketch what the **3D version** of this object would look like (Use isometric paper to create a drawing to scale or just a sketch on plain paper).
2. Work out the **SURFACE AREA** of the side elevation.
3. Work out the **VOLUME** of the entire object.



The object is made up of 5 cubes, each 4m x 4m square.

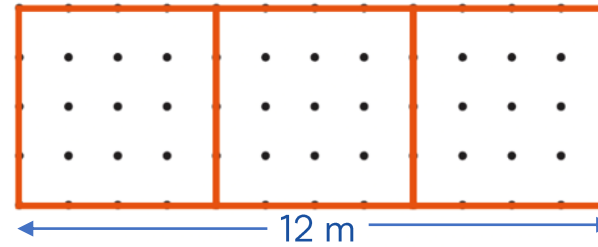


Isometric/3D View



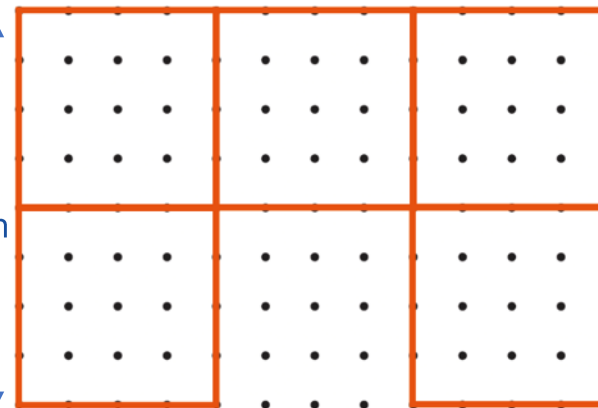
Your sketch should look something like this.

Plan View



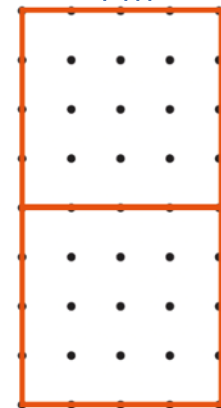
8 m

Side Elevation



4 m

Front Elevation



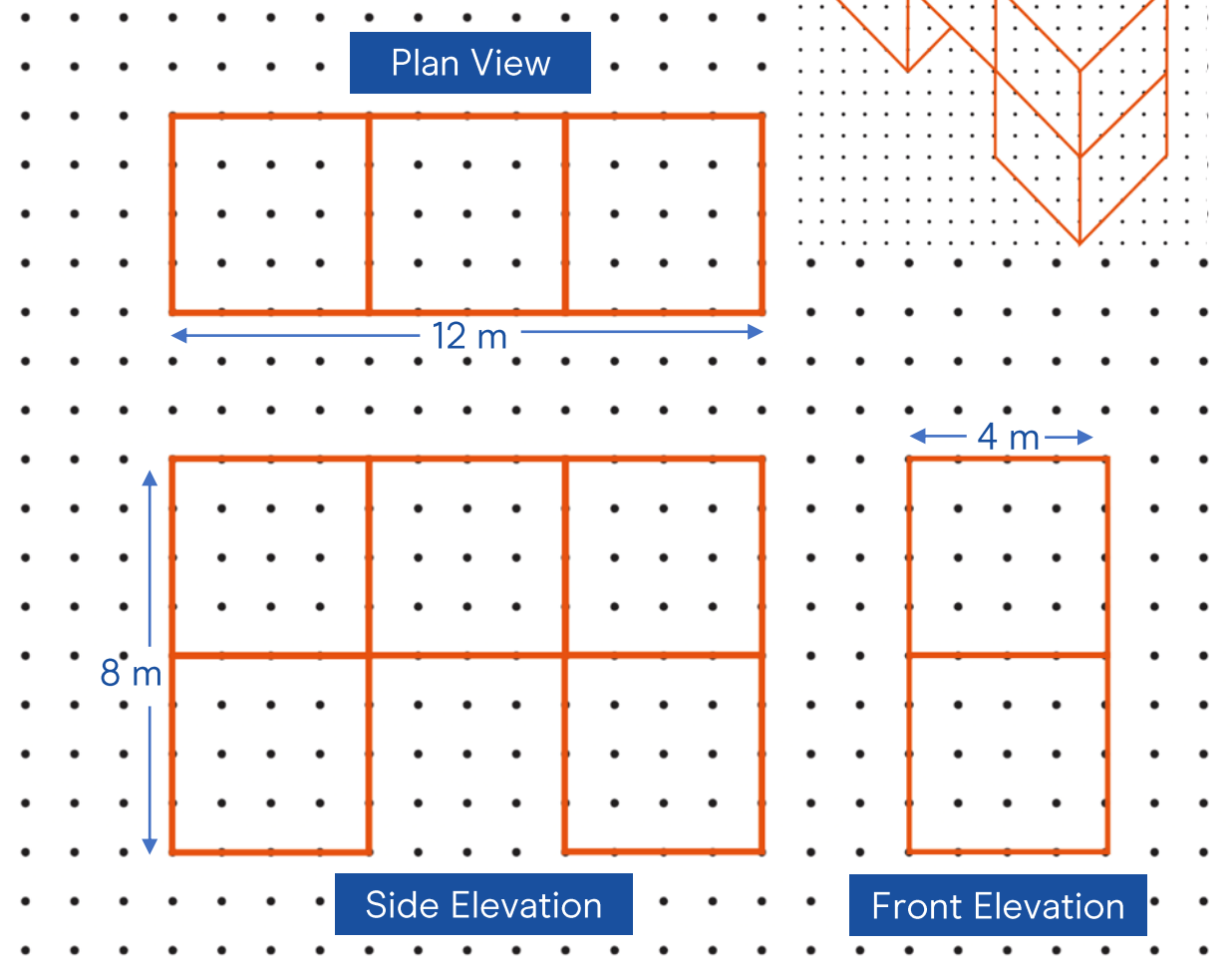
## Answers:

1. **SURFACE AREA** of the side elevation:

$$4\text{m} \times 4\text{m} = 16\text{m}^2 \text{ (surface area of 1 cube)}$$
$$16\text{m}^2 \times 5 = 80\text{m}^2 \text{ (surface area of side elevation)}$$

2. **VOLUME** of the entire object:

$$4\text{m} \times 4\text{m} \times 4\text{m} = 64\text{m}^3 \text{ (volume of 1 cube)}$$
$$64\text{m}^3 \times 5 = 320\text{m}^3 \text{ (volume of entire object)}$$



# Boat Plans

Good work! Find more activities at:  
[canalrivertrust.org.uk/stem](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/stem)

