



# 3D Shapes From Above



In **3D Shapes From Above** questions, you will be given a 3D shape and asked to choose the **2D plan** that shows what the shape would look like when viewed from above.

 3D shape	 3D shape	 3D shape	 3D shape
 2D plan	 2D plan	 2D plan	 2D plan

## Method

- Look closely at the **dimensions** of the 3D shape.
  - How many blocks **wide** is it?
  - How many blocks **long** is it?
  - Can you use this to rule out any answer options?
- Work through each row of blocks **one by one**, beginning with the **first row**.
  - Are there the correct **number** of blocks?
  - Are the **top blocks** in the correct positions?
  - Are there any **gaps** that shouldn't be there?
- Move onto the next row of blocks.
  - Use the **same methods** to rule out incorrect answer options.
  - Repeat** this until you have worked through every row.

**Remember!** We don't need to worry about the **height** of our 3D shape! We only need to focus on its **top blocks** because these are the only blocks that we see when looking at the shape from above!

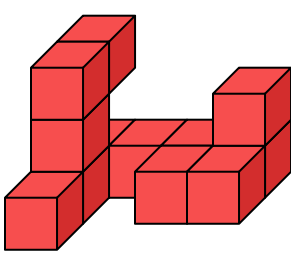
## Top Tips

- Try to visualise the **gaps** as well as the blocks - they're just as important!
- Sometimes it can be tricky to work out which blocks are in the **same row** - start with the tallest block in each row and then trace a line across and down!
- Look out for **overhanging blocks** (blocks that stick out over a gap), and **partially hidden blocks** (blocks that you can only see part of) - they may be used to confuse you!
 

Overhanging Blocks	Partially Hidden Blocks

## Example Question

What would this shape look like from above?



A	B	C	D	E

- Look closely at the **dimensions** of the 3D shape.
  - It is 4 blocks wide and 3 blocks long.
  - We can rule out **B** and **D** - they are each only 2 blocks long!
- Now let's use the **first row** of blocks to rule out more answer options.
  - There is only 1 top block in the first row.
  - We can rule out **C** because there are 3 blocks in the first row!
- Now we can move on to the **other rows!**
  - There are 3 blocks and a **gap** in the second row, which we can see in both A and E.
  - There are 4 top blocks in the third row - we can rule out **E** because there are only 3 blocks!

**C** is the correct answer! It is the only cube that can be made from the net.