

How Many Square Metres To An Acre

How Many Square Meters to an Acre? A Comprehensive Guide for Land Measurement ** Navigating the world of land measurement can feel like deciphering a complex code. Whether you're a farmer calculating planting areas, a real estate agent presenting properties, or a surveyor planning infrastructure, understanding the conversion between acres and square meters is crucial. This dives deep into the conversion of acres to square meters, exploring the underlying principles, practical applications, and common pitfalls. We'll also touch on related concepts, providing a comprehensive resource for anyone working with land measurements. Understanding the

Fundamental Conversion An acre is a unit of land area, originating from the agricultural practices of the medieval era. It's defined as a unit of land that could be ploughed by a yoke of oxen in a day. The modern definition, however, is precisely 43,560 square feet. The square meter, on the other hand, is a fundamental unit of area in the metric system. To convert between these units, we need to recognize the relationship between feet and meters. One foot is approximately equal to 0.3048 meters. This conversion factor is essential to the calculation. To determine the equivalent square meters in an acre, we square the conversion factor: $(0.3048 \text{ meters/foot})^2 = 0.09290304 \text{ square meters/square foot}$ Multiplying this by the square footage in an acre (43,560 sq ft): $43,560 \text{ sq ft} \times$

0.09290304 sq m/sq ft $\approx$ 4046.86 square meters Therefore, there are approximately 4046.86 square meters in an acre. Practical Applications and Real-World Examples • Agriculture: **A farmer planning a wheat crop, needing to know the area in square meters for accurate seed and fertilizer calculations.** • Real Estate: **An estate agent marketing land, requiring the conversion to display the property's area in a manner easily understood by the target audience.** • Construction: A civil engineer planning a road project, demanding precision in land measurement to ensure alignment with zoning regulations. • Urban Planning: **Municipalities calculating areas for new housing developments.** Case Study: Calculating Land Area for a Vineyard Let's say a vineyard owner wants to plant grapes on a plot of land measuring 5 acres. To calculate the area in square meters, we multiply the acreage by the conversion factor: $5 \text{ acres} * 4046.86 \text{ sq m/acre} \approx 20234.3 \text{ square meters}$. This result allows the vineyard owner to plan the layout of the vineyard, calculate the amount of irrigation needed, and make other critical decisions. Related Concepts and Considerations

Converting Between Different Units of Area

Understanding conversions between square meters and other units like hectares is vital. A hectare is a metric unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters. This simplifies calculations for larger areas, such as farms or parks.

Common Measurement Errors

One common error when converting involves rounding off the conversion factor too early in the calculation. Using a less precise value can lead to significant inaccuracies, especially when dealing with large acreages.

Calculating Acreage from Square Meters

To reverse the process and determine the acreage from a known square meter value, divide the square meter value by the conversion factor: Square meters / 4046.86 sq m/acre = Acres.

Land Area Measurement Tools and Technologies

Modern surveying technologies offer sophisticated tools for precise land measurements. GPS devices, LiDAR systems, and aerial photography enable accurate calculation of areas, particularly valuable in challenging terrain or large-scale projects. Tables and Charts / Acres / Square Meters / ||| / 1 / 4046.86 / / 5 / 20234.3 / / 10 / 40468.6 / / 25 / 101171.5 / / 50 / 202343 / Chart illustrating the conversion between acres and square meters for different acreages. (Visual representation required here – a chart or graph illustrating the conversion over different acreage ranges. This would significantly enhance the .) Conclusion **Mastering the conversion between acres and square meters is a fundamental skill for anyone working with land. Understanding the underlying principles, practical applications, and common pitfalls allows**

for precise calculations and informed decision-making in various fields. The precision of modern surveying techniques further enhances the reliability of land measurements, ensuring accurate outcomes for diverse projects, from agricultural practices to urban development.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1. What is the historical context behind the acre unit? The acre's origins are rooted in medieval agricultural practices, designed to define a manageable area for a team of oxen to plow in a day.**
- 2. Why is accurate land measurement crucial in real estate transactions? Precise land measurement ensures transparency and avoids disputes regarding property boundaries and sizes.**
- 3. How does the metric system relate to the conversion? The metric system, using base units like meters, allows for straightforward and internationally recognized measurements, facilitating global communication and understanding in land transactions.**
- 4. What are some examples of technologies used for precise land measurements today? Technologies like GPS and LiDAR provide highly accurate and efficient methods for determining precise land measurements, particularly in challenging terrains or large-scale projects.**
- 5. Beyond the conversion, what other factors should be considered when dealing with land?***

Beyond simple conversion, factors like zoning regulations, easements, and environmental considerations are also critical when working with land parcels. This detailed guide provides a comprehensive understanding of how many square meters are in an acre, empowering readers with the knowledge and tools needed to make accurate land measurements and informed decisions.

How Many Square Metres in an Acre?

Understanding Land Measurement

The question of "how many square metres to an acre" is a common one, popping up for homeowners, real estate professionals, surveyors, and even gardeners. It's a fundamental piece of knowledge when dealing with land, especially as you transition between metric and imperial systems. While it might seem like a simple conversion, understanding the nuances and historical context can be quite interesting, and thankfully, quite straightforward once you know the magic number. Let's dive in and demystify this common land measurement conversion.

The Simple Answer: The Magic Number

At its core, the conversion is remarkably consistent. One acre is equal to **4046.86 square metres**. Yes, it's that simple! You don't need to do complex calculations every time. Think of it as a fixed conversion factor, much like how many centimetres are in a metre or inches in a foot. However, for practical purposes, people often round this number. You'll frequently see it stated as: **Approximately 4047 square metres** **Roughly 4000 square metres** The level of precision needed often depends on the context. For a quick estimate when looking at property listings, 4000 or 4047 sq m might be perfectly sufficient. If you're involved in precise land surveying or agricultural planning, the more accurate 4046.86 sq m is essential.

Why the Confusion? Metric vs. Imperial Systems

The reason this question arises so frequently is the ongoing global shift towards the metric system (SI units) while many older land records, particularly in countries like the United States, still use imperial units.

Imperial System: This system uses units like feet, yards, and acres. It's rooted in historical measurements often based on human or agricultural practices. An acre, for instance, was traditionally defined as the amount of land that could be plowed by a yoke of oxen in one day.

Metric System: This system, standardized globally, uses units like metres, kilometres, and hectares. It's a decimal-based system, making conversions within the system very straightforward (e.g., 1000 metres in a kilometre). So, when you encounter land advertised in acres in one region and are used to thinking in square metres in another, this conversion becomes vital.

Breaking Down the Acre: A Deeper Look

While the square metre conversion is the most direct answer to "how many square metres to an acre," it's worth understanding what an acre actually represents in imperial terms, as this is its origin.

In Feet: One acre is equal to 43,560 square feet. This is a number you'll often see alongside the square metre equivalent.

In Yards: One acre is equal to 4840 square yards. The relationship between these imperial units and the metric system is where our 4046.86 sq m comes from:

$$1 \text{ foot} = 0.3048 \text{ metres}$$
$$1 \text{ yard} = 0.9144 \text{ metres}$$

Therefore:

$$43,560 \text{ sq ft} \times (0.3048 \text{ m/ft})^2 =$$

4046.8564224 sq m (which rounds to 4046.86 sq m) * 4840 sq yd *
(0.9144 m/yd)² = 4046.8564224 sq m (again, rounding to 4046.86
sq m) See? The math checks out perfectly!

What About Hectares? A Related Measurement

Often, when people are converting from acres to the metric system, they might also be thinking about hectares. A hectare is a commonly used metric unit for land area, especially in agriculture and real estate outside of the US. * **1 Hectare = 10,000 square metres**
So, how does an acre compare to a hectare? Since 1 acre is 4046.86 sq m and 1 hectare is 10,000 sq m, it's clear that: * **One acre is less than half a hectare.** * More precisely, **1 acre is approximately 0.4047 hectares**. * Conversely, **1 hectare is approximately 2.471 acres**. This is a useful comparison if you're more familiar with hectares and are trying to gauge the size of an acre. Thinking of it as "roughly 2 and a half acres make a hectare" can be a good mental shortcut.

Practical Scenarios: Where This Conversion Matters**

So, why do you need to know "how many square metres to an acre"? Here are a few common situations where this conversion is incredibly useful:

1. Real Estate and Property Listings

In many countries, property sizes are advertised in acres. If you live in a country that primarily uses square metres for property dimensions (like Australia, the UK, or most of Europe), you'll need to convert acres to square metres to understand the actual size of the plot. This helps you:

- * **Compare properties effectively:** When looking at listings, you can accurately compare the land size of different properties, regardless of the unit used in the listing.
- * **Visualize the space:** Knowing that one acre is over 4000 square metres can help you visualize how much land you're getting, which is crucial for planning gardens, extensions, or just understanding the scale of the property.
- * **Budgeting:** Land size is often a significant factor in property price. Converting helps ensure you're getting value for your money.

2. Gardening and Agriculture

For hobby gardeners and commercial farmers alike, understanding land area is critical for planning:

- * **Crop yields:** Knowing the exact area allows for more accurate calculations of potential crop yields.
- * **Fertilizer and seed quantities:** Purchasing the right amount of soil amendments, fertilizers, and seeds is essential for efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Incorrect calculations can lead to overspending or under-application.
- * **Landscaping projects:** Planning pathways, garden beds, or even the placement of sheds becomes much easier when you have a clear understanding of the total area in square metres.

3. Surveying and Land Development

Professional surveyors and land developers rely on precise measurements:

- * **Boundary definitions:** Accurately defining property lines is paramount.
- * **Zoning regulations:** Many local regulations are based on land area (e.g., minimum lot size).
- * **Construction planning:** Understanding the available space in square metres is vital for designing buildings, roads, and infrastructure.

4. International Travel and Relocation

If you're moving to or traveling in a country that uses acres, or vice-versa, knowing this conversion helps you understand local context:

- * **Rural properties:** Many rural properties, especially in North America, are measured in acres.
- * **Parks and public spaces:** You might see park sizes or land grants described in acres.

Making the Conversion Easy: Tools and Techniques

You don't need to keep the number 4046.86 etched in your memory forever. Here are some easy ways to perform the conversion:

- * **Online Converters:** The quickest and easiest method. Simply search for "acre to square metre converter" on Google or any search engine. You can type in your acre value, and it will instantly give you the square metre equivalent. These are excellent for general use and ensure accuracy.
- * **Mobile Apps:** Many unit conversion apps are available for smartphones, offering the same convenience as online

converters. * **Spreadsheet Software:** If you're doing multiple conversions, inputting the formula into a spreadsheet like Microsoft Excel or Google Sheets can be very efficient. For example, in a cell, you could have `=A1\*4046.86` where `A1` contains the number of acres you want to convert. * **Mental Math (with approximations):** For rough estimates, remember: * 1 acre $\approx$ 4000 sq m * 1 acre $\approx$ 0.4 hectares So, if you see a property that's 5 acres, you can quickly estimate it's around 20,000 square metres (5 x 4000).

The Shape of an Acre: Does it Matter?

A common misconception is that an acre must be a specific shape. This is not true! An acre is a unit of **area**, not a unit of length or shape. This means an acre can be: * **A perfect square:** If you take the square root of 43,560 sq ft, you get approximately 208.71 feet. So, a square plot measuring about 208.71 feet by 208.71 feet would be roughly one acre. * **A long, narrow rectangle:** A strip of land that is 100 feet wide would need to be 435.6 feet long to equal one acre. * **Irregular shapes:** Most real-world plots are irregular. As long as the total area enclosed within the boundaries adds up to 43,560 square feet (or 4046.86 square metres), it's an acre. When a property is listed as "1 acre," the shape is determined by the legal boundaries of the parcel, not by a predefined template of what an acre should look like.

Key Takeaways and When to Use What

To sum up our journey into understanding land measurement: * **The fundamental conversion:** 1 acre = 4046.86 square

metres^{**}. ^{*} ^{**}Practical approximation:^{**} 1 acre $\approx$ 4047 sq m or 4000 sq m. ^{*} ^{**}Related imperial measurement:^{**} 1 acre = 43,560 square feet. ^{*} ^{**}Metric comparison:^{**} 1 acre $\approx$ 0.4047 hectares. ^{*} ^{**}Hectare to acre:^{**} 1 hectare $\approx$ 2.471 acres. ^{**}When to use square metres:^{**} Primarily in countries that use the metric system for everyday measurements and property transactions (e.g., Australia, UK, EU countries). It's the standard for most construction, landscaping, and general property descriptions. ^{**}When to use acres:^{**} Primarily in countries like the United States, where the imperial system is still dominant for land measurement. It's also often used in agricultural contexts globally, even in metric countries, due to tradition. Understanding "how many square metres to an acre" is more than just memorizing a number; it's about navigating different measurement systems and ensuring you have a clear, accurate picture of land size, no matter where you are or what your project entails. So next time you see an acre, you'll know it's a substantial piece of land, roughly equivalent to just over 4000 square metres – enough space for a good-sized garden, a modest house with a yard, or a significant portion of a farm.

Understanding the Conversion: How Many Square Metres Equal One Acre When working with land measurements, one of the most common and essential conversions is understanding how many square metres make up an acre. This relationship is fundamental not only for farmers, builders, and landscape designers but also for anyone engaged in real estate, agriculture, or environmental planning. An acre, a unit rooted in historical land measurement, is defined as 43,560 square feet in the imperial system—a figure that

dates back to medieval England's field divisions. Meanwhile, a square metre, the cornerstone of the metric system, represents a precise area of 10 by 10 metres, totaling 100 square metres. Converting between these two units unlocks clarity across a range of practical applications. To grasp the numerical relationship, the conversion factor is clear: one acre equals exactly 4,046.85642 square metres. This precise value arises from dividing 43,560 square feet by 10.764 square metres per square foot, a conversion that reflects the standardized definitions used globally. While approximations often settle on 4,047 square metres for simplicity, the exact figure ensures accuracy in professional and technical contexts where precision matters—such as land surveys, construction blueprints, or international trade agreements involving real estate. This conversion plays a vital role across multiple disciplines. In agriculture, knowing the exact size in square metres helps farmers calculate planting yields, allocate irrigation resources, and optimize land use efficiency. For urban developers and architects, converting acre-to-square-metre metrics supports accurate site planning, zoning compliance, and infrastructure design. Even in environmental studies, measuring land in square metres enables detailed assessments of habitat size, carbon sequestration potential, and ecological impact. The ability to seamlessly convert between these units supports informed decision-making and reduces the risk of costly measurement errors. Beyond practical utility, understanding this conversion fosters better cross-cultural and international communication. With metric systems dominating global standards, yet imperial measurements still prevalent in some regions, the ability to translate acreage into

square metres bridges gaps between diverse measurement traditions. This fluency enhances collaboration in multinational projects, real estate transactions, and academic research, ensuring accuracy regardless of local conventions. Looking ahead, as technology continues to advance, the way we convert and visualize land measurements evolves. Digital mapping tools, geographic information systems (GIS), and automated land surveying software now integrate such conversions with precision and speed. This not only streamlines workflows but also opens new possibilities for real-time land analysis, sustainable development planning, and smart city integration. The fundamental knowledge of how many square metres constitute an acre remains a foundational skill—one that continues to grow in relevance as global land use becomes increasingly data-driven and interconnected. Mastering the square metre to acre conversion is more than a numerical exercise; it is a gateway to clearer understanding, better planning, and more effective execution across countless fields shaped by land.

When dealing with land measurements, especially in real estate, development, or agriculture, understanding the conversion between different units is crucial. One of the most common areas of confusion arises when trying to quantify the size of a plot of land. Specifically, many individuals ponder: **how many square metres to an acre?**

This seemingly simple question delves into a fundamental aspect of measurement systems and their historical origins. While the metric system, with its elegant decimal-based structure, is widely adopted globally, the imperial system, which includes acres and square metres (often used in conjunction with the metric system, albeit

inconsistently), persists in certain regions, most notably the United States. Therefore, a clear understanding of this conversion is not just a matter of curiosity but a practical necessity for accurate land assessment and transactions.

Let's break down this conversion, explore its origins, and provide practical applications, ensuring you have a comprehensive grasp of how many square metres fit into a single acre.

The Imperial Acre: A Historical Perspective

Before we dive into the direct conversion, it's beneficial to understand the origin of the acre. The term "acre" is an old English word meaning "open field." Historically, an acre was defined as the amount of land that could be ploughed in one day by a yoke of oxen. This definition was not standardized in terms of precise dimensions but rather in terms of productive capacity. Over time, this evolved into a more standardized unit of area.

The modern definition of an acre, established in the United Kingdom and subsequently adopted by other Commonwealth countries and the United States, is based on a furlong (a distance of 220 yards) and a chain (a distance of 22 yards). Therefore, one acre is precisely **1 furlong x 1 chain**, which translates to 220 yards x 22 yards.

This historical context explains why the acre is not a neat, round number in relation to the metric system. Its roots lie in agricultural practices and traditional linear measurements rather than a purely scientific, decimal-based system.

The Metric System: Square Metres and Their Simplicity

The square metre (m^2) is the standard unit of area in the International System of Units (SI), commonly known as the metric system. It is derived from the metre, the base unit of length. A square metre is simply the area of a square with sides measuring one metre each.

The beauty of the metric system lies in its decimal nature. Larger and smaller units are easily derived by powers of ten, making calculations straightforward. For instance, a square kilometre is 1,000,000 square metres, and a square centimetre is 0.0001 square metres.

The Definitive Conversion: How Many Square Metres to an Acre?

Now, let's get to the core of the question: how many square metres are there in one acre? This is a fixed conversion that remains constant regardless of the shape or dimensions of the land. The universally accepted conversion is:

1 acre = 4046.8564224 square metres

This precise figure is derived from the imperial definition of an acre and the international definition of a metre.

Breaking Down the Calculation

To understand where this number comes from, let's do a quick calculation:

1. 1 yard = 0.9144 metres
2. 1 chain = 22 yards = $22 * 0.9144$ metres = 20.1168 metres
3. 1 furlong = 220 yards = $220 * 0.9144$ metres = 201.168 metres
4. 1 acre = 1 chain * 1 furlong = 20.1168 metres * 201.168 metres
5. 1 acre = 4046.8564224 square metres

As you can see, the conversion isn't a simple whole number, which is why it often causes confusion. For practical purposes, especially in everyday conversations or initial estimations, it's common to round this number.

Practical Approximations

While the exact figure is 4046.8564224 m², for quick mental calculations and general understanding, it's often approximated as:

1. **1 acre $\approx$ 4047 square metres**
2. **1 acre $\approx$ 0.4 hectares** (A hectare is 10,000 square metres, so an acre is roughly half a hectare).

These approximations are useful for getting a general sense of scale but should not be used for official land transactions or precise engineering calculations.

Why This Conversion Matters: Real-World Applications

Understanding the conversion from acres to square metres is vital in numerous scenarios:

Real Estate Transactions

In countries where acres are still a primary unit for land measurement (like the US and UK), understanding how many square metres a listed acre represents is crucial. It helps buyers and sellers get a true sense of the land's size, especially when comparing properties listed in different units or when international buyers are involved. For instance, if a property is advertised as 2 acres, you immediately know it's approximately 8094 square metres ($2 * 4047$).

Land Development and Planning

Developers, architects, and urban planners often work with both metric and imperial systems. Accurately calculating building footprints, zoning regulations, and the capacity of a plot of land requires precise conversions. For example, if a zoning law specifies a minimum lot size of 10,000 square metres, you can easily determine how many acres that equates to ($10,000 / 4047 \approx 2.47$ acres).

Agriculture and Farming

Farmers and agricultural businesses frequently deal with land areas measured in acres. Understanding the equivalent in square metres can be helpful for irrigation planning, crop yield calculations, or when purchasing seeds and fertilizers sold by metric measurements. For instance, if a farmer needs to cover 5 acres with a specific type of fertilizer, they know they need enough for approximately 20,235 square metres ($5 * 4047$).

Construction and Surveying

Construction projects, from building a single-family home to large commercial complexes, require precise measurements. Surveyors must be able to accurately demarcate property lines and calculate areas, often needing to convert between imperial and metric units seamlessly. This ensures that projects adhere to legal boundaries and design specifications.

International Comparisons

When comparing land sizes across different countries, understanding unit conversions is essential. If you see a plot of land described as 5 acres in the US and you're used to square metres, you can quickly convert it to approximately 20,235 m² to compare it with land measurements in metric-dominant regions.

Hectares vs. Acres: A Common Point of Confusion

Another unit often encountered is the hectare (ha). A hectare is a metric unit of area, equal to 10,000 square metres. Since an acre is approximately 4047 square metres, it's helpful to know its relationship to a hectare:

$$1 \text{ hectare} = 10,000 \text{ m}^2$$

$$1 \text{ acre} \approx 4047 \text{ m}^2$$

Therefore, 1 hectare is roughly 2.47 acres (10,000 / 4047).

This comparison is useful because hectares are widely used in agriculture and land management globally. If you encounter a land size in hectares, you can easily convert it to acres, or vice versa, using the square metre as an intermediary.

Tools and Resources for Conversion

Fortunately, you don't need to memorize the exact conversion factor. Numerous tools and resources are available to help:

1. **Online Converters:** A quick search for "acre to square metre converter" will yield dozens of free, easy-to-use online tools. Simply input the value in acres, and it will provide the equivalent in square metres.
2. **Mobile Apps:** Many unit converter apps are available for smartphones, offering offline conversion capabilities.

3. **Spreadsheet Software:** If you work with large datasets, spreadsheet programs like Microsoft Excel or Google Sheets have built-in conversion functions or allow you to create formulas for quick calculations.
4. **Mathematical Formulas:** As demonstrated, you can perform the conversion yourself using the factor 4046.8564224.

Conclusion: Mastering the Measurement

The question of "how many square metres to an acre" is fundamental for anyone interacting with land measurements outside of a purely metric environment. The precise answer, **4046.8564224 square metres**, while seemingly complex, is the key to unlocking accurate calculations and clear communication.

By understanding the historical context of the acre and the straightforward nature of the square metre, you can confidently navigate land-related information. Whether you're buying property, planning a development, or simply trying to visualize the scale of a piece of land, having this conversion at your fingertips will prove invaluable. Remember the practical approximation of 4047 square metres for quick estimates, but always rely on the exact figure or a trusted converter for official purposes.

Mastering this conversion is more than just knowing a number; it's about bridging measurement systems and ensuring clarity in a world where diverse units of measure continue to coexist.

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Questions & Answers About how many square metres to an acre

No	Question	Answer
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1	What's the magic number? How many square meters are in a single acre?	One acre is equivalent to approximately 4,046.86 square meters. This is a standard conversion used globally.
2	I'm looking at land for sale online. How do I convert acres to square meters for a better understanding of size?	To convert acres to square meters, simply multiply the number of acres by 4,046.86. For example, 2 acres would be $2 * 4,046.86 = 8,093.72$ square meters.
3	Why is this acre to square meter conversion so important for property?	Understanding this conversion is crucial for real estate. It helps buyers and sellers accurately gauge land size, compare properties, and understand zoning regulations, which are often based on square meter measurements.
4	Are there different types of acres, and does that affect the square meter conversion?	Generally, when people refer to 'acres' in most English-speaking countries, they mean the 'international acre,' which has the standard conversion of 4,046.86 square meters. Historical or regional variations exist but are less common in modern contexts.
5	I'm designing a garden. How many square meters would a 0.25-acre plot be?	A quarter of an acre (0.25 acres) is about 1,011.72 square meters ($0.25 * 4,046.86$). That's a good amount of space to work with for a garden!
6	In simpler terms, can you give me a rough idea of how big an acre is in square meters?	Think of an acre as being roughly the size of a little over 16 tennis courts or about 3/4 of an American football field. That gives you a visual sense of its approximate size in square meters (around 4,047 sqm).

7	Is the conversion from acres to square meters consistent worldwide?	Yes, the conversion of 1 acre to 4,046.86 square meters is the internationally recognized standard and is used consistently across most countries that use the imperial or metric systems for land measurement.
8	I'm building a house. How much land in square meters would 1 acre provide for my project?	One acre provides approximately 4,046.86 square meters of land. This is a significant area to consider for building footprints, landscaping, and other developments.
9	What's the easiest way to remember the conversion factor between acres and square meters?	The easiest way to remember is that 1 acre is roughly 4,000 square meters. For a more precise calculation, use the factor 4,046.86.

square metres to acre conversion, acre measurement to square meters, how many square meters in an acre, acre size in square meters equivalent, square meters to acres conversion guide, acre to square meters conversion calculator, acres to square meters conversion, land area conversion: square meters to acres, convert square meters to acres, acre measurement conversion formula

How Many Square Metres

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