Tessellations

Math 8

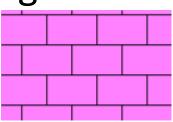
Tessellation Definition:

• A pattern of shapes that fit perfectly together!

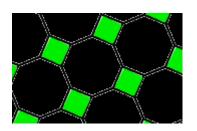
• A **Tessellation** (or **Tiling**) is when we cover a surface with a pattern of flat shapes so that there are no overlaps or gaps.

Examples

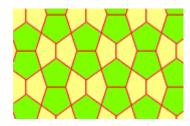
• Rectangles



Octagons and Squares



• Different Pentagons



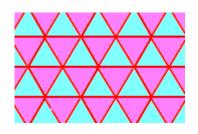
Regular Tessellations

• A **regular** tessellation is a pattern made by repeating a <u>regular polygon</u>.

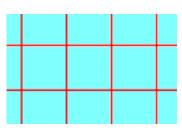
• There are only 3 regular tessellations:

Regular Tesselations

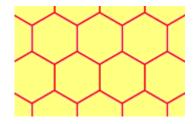
• Triangles 3.3.3.3.3.3



Squares 4.4.4.4



Hexagons 6.6.6

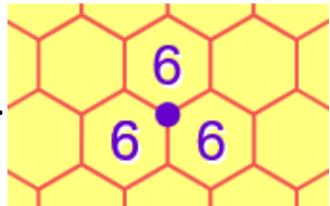


Look at a Vertex...

- A vertex is just a "corner point".
- What shapes meet here?



- Three hexagons meet at this vertex, and a hexagon has 6 sides.
- So this is called a "6.6.6" tessellation

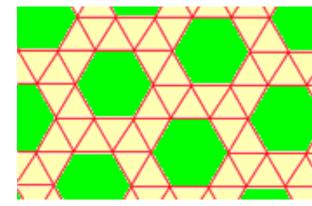


For a regular tessellation, the pattern is identical at each vertex!

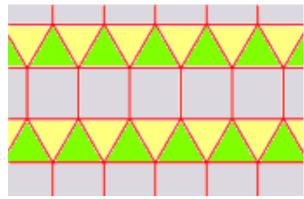
Semi-regular Tessellations

 A semi-regular tessellation is made of two or more regular polygons. The pattern at each vertex must be the same!

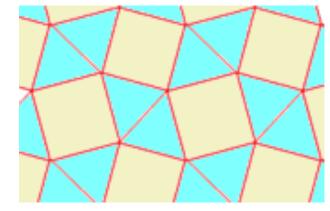
• 3.3.3.3.6



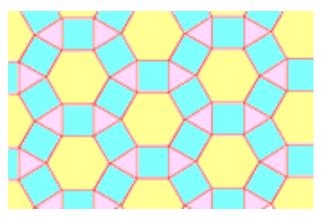
• 3.3.3.4.4



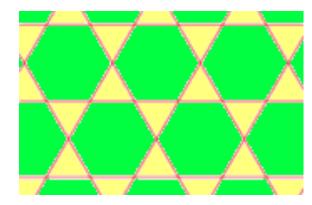
• 3.3.4.3.4



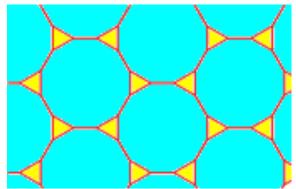
• 3.4.6.4



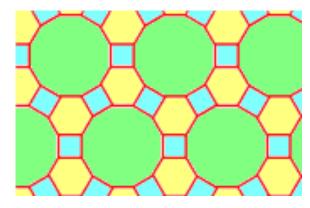
• 3.6.3.6



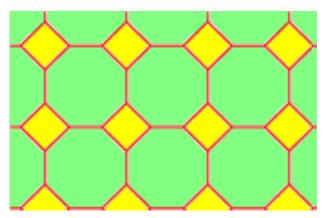
• 3.12.12



• 4.6.12



• 4.8.8



Naming Tessellations

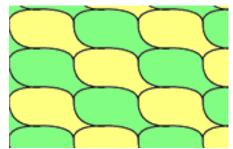
- To name a tessellation, go around a vertex and write down how many sides each polygon has, in order ... like "3.12.12".
- And always start at the polygon with the least number of sides, so "3.12.12", not "12.3.12"

Other Tessellations

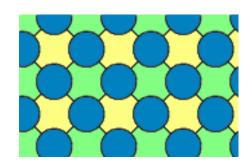
- There are also "demiregular" tessellations, but mathematicians disagree on what they actually are!
- And some people allow curved shapes (not just polygons) so we can have tessellations like these:

Other Tessellations

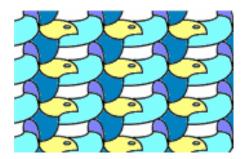
Curvy Shapes



Circles



• Eagles?



References

<u>https://www.mathsisfun.com/geometry/tesse</u>
<u>llation.html</u> (tessellation)