

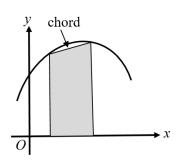
# Area under a graph

#### A LEVEL LINKS

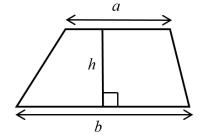
**Scheme of work:** 7b. Definite integrals and areas under curves

# **Key points**

 To estimate the area under a curve, draw a chord between the two points you are finding the area between and straight lines down to the horizontal axis to create a trapezium.
 The area of the trapezium is an approximation for the area under a curve.

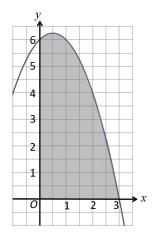


• The area of a trapezium =  $\frac{1}{2}h(a+b)$ 



# **Examples**

**Example 1** Estimate the area of the region between the curve y = (3 - x)(2 + x) and the *x*-axis from x = 0 to x = 3. Use three strips of width 1 unit.



x	0	1	2	3
y = (3-x)(2+x)	6	6	4	0

Trapezium 1:

$$a_1 = 6 - 0 = 6$$
,  $b_1 = 6 - 0 = 6$ 

Trapezium 2:

$$a_2 = 6 - 0 = 6$$
,  $b_2 = 4 - 0 = 4$ 

Trapezium 3:

$$a_3 = 4 - 0 = 4$$
,  $a_3 = 0 - 0 = 0$ 

- 1 Use a table to record the value of *y* on the curve for each value of *x*.
- 2 Work out the dimensions of each trapezium. The distances between the *y*-values on the curve and the *x*-axis give the values for *a*.

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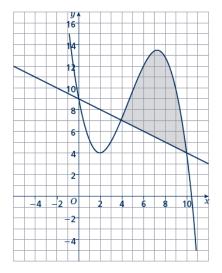


$$\frac{1}{2}h(a_1 + b_1) = \frac{1}{2} \times 1(6+6) = 6$$
$$\frac{1}{2}h(a_2 + b_2) = \frac{1}{2} \times 1(6+4) = 5$$
$$\frac{1}{2}h(a_3 + b_3) = \frac{1}{2} \times 1(4+0) = 2$$

Area = 6 + 5 + 2 = 13 units<sup>2</sup>

- 3 Work out the area of each trapezium. h = 1 since the width of each trapezium is 1 unit.
- **4** Work out the total area. Remember to give units with your answer.

Example 2 Estimate the shaded area.
Use three strips of width 2 units.



x	4	6	8	10
y	7	12	13	4

x	4	6	8	10
y	7	6	5	4

Trapezium 1:

$$a_1 = 7 - 7 = 0$$
,  $b_1 = 12 - 6 = 6$ 

Trapezium 2:

$$a_2 = 12 - 6 = 6$$
,  $b_2 = 13 - 5 = 8$ 

Trapezium 3:

$$a_3 = 13 - 5 = 8$$
,  $a_3 = 4 - 4 = 0$ 

$$\frac{1}{2}h(a_1+b_1) = \frac{1}{2} \times 2(0+6) = 6$$

$$\frac{1}{2}h(a_2+b_2) = \frac{1}{2} \times 2(6+8) = 14$$

$$\frac{1}{2}h(a_3+b_3) = \frac{1}{2} \times 2(8+0) = 8$$

Area = 
$$6 + 14 + 8 = 28$$
 units<sup>2</sup>

- 1 Use a table to record *y* on the curve for each value of *x*.
- 2 Use a table to record y on the straight line for each value of x.
- 3 Work out the dimensions of each trapezium. The distances between the *y*-values on the curve and the *y*-values on the straight line give the values for *a*.
- 4 Work out the area of each trapezium. h = 2 since the width of each trapezium is 2 units.
- 5 Work out the total area. Remember to give units with your answer.





### **Practice**

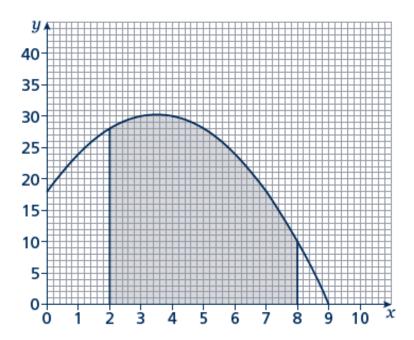
Estimate the area of the region between the curve y = (5 - x)(x + 2) and the x-axis from x = 1 to x = 5. Use four strips of width 1 unit.

#### Hint:

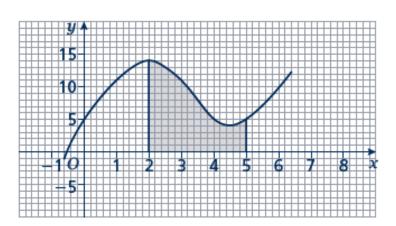
For a full answer, remember to include 'units<sup>2</sup>'.

2 Estimate the shaded area shown on the axes.

Use six strips of width 1 unit.



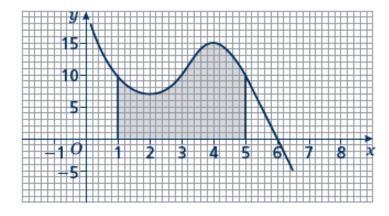
- Estimate the area of the region between the curve  $y = x^2 8x + 18$  and the x-axis from x = 2 to x = 6. Use four strips of width 1 unit.
- 4 Estimate the shaded area. Use six strips of width  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit.



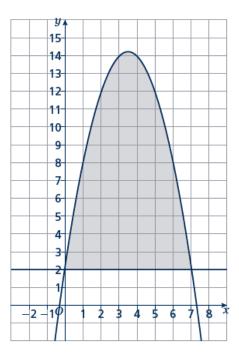




- 5 Estimate the area of the region between the curve  $y = -x^2 4x + 5$  and the *x*-axis from x = -5 to x = 1. Use six strips of width 1 unit.
- **6** Estimate the shaded area. Use four strips of equal width.



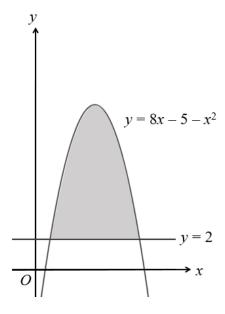
- 7 Estimate the area of the region between the curve  $y = -x^2 + 2x + 15$  and the x-axis from x = 2 to x = 5. Use six strips of equal width.
- 8 Estimate the shaded area.
  Use seven strips of equal width.



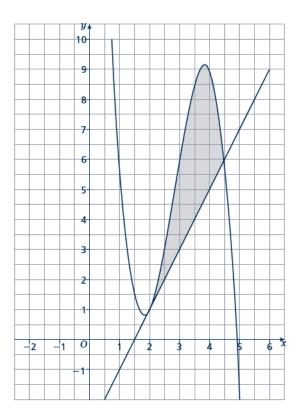


### **Extend**

9 The curve  $y = 8x - 5 - x^2$  and the line y = 2 are shown in the sketch. Estimate the shaded area using six strips of equal width.



**10** Estimate the shaded area using five strips of equal width.







## **Answers**

- **1** 34 units<sup>2</sup>
- **2** 149 units<sup>2</sup>
- **3** 14 units<sup>2</sup>
- 4  $25\frac{1}{4}$  units<sup>2</sup>
- **5** 35 units<sup>2</sup>
- **6** 42 units<sup>2</sup>
- 7  $26\frac{7}{8}$  units<sup>2</sup>
- **8** 56 units<sup>2</sup>
- **9** 35 units<sup>2</sup>
- **10**  $6\frac{1}{4}$  units<sup>2</sup>