

## 36 Fences Problem

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A farmer has 36 individual lengths of fence.  
Each is 1 m long. What is the smallest area  
that can be enclosed using all 36 fences? What  
is the largest area that can be enclosed using  
all 36 fences?



**Source:** Jo Boaler (2009) *"The Elephant in the Classroom: Helping Children Learn and Love Maths"* London, UK: Souvenir Press