

# MathsJam

# Shout

January 2023  
Cool S Edition

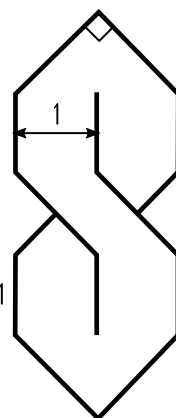
This month's Shout is a celebration of the Cool S: a classic doodle, based on two sets of three parallel lines joined into a cool S-shape. Here's a selection of ideas based on the Cool S collected (with deep apologies) by Manchester MathsJam.

## Puzzle

### Cool Area

Given a cool S with line lengths and angles as given, what is the area of the Cool S?

Design & share your own Cool S geometry puzzle.



## Make

### Paper Cool S

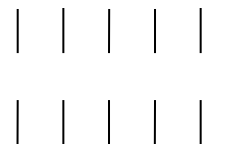
Take a long thin strip of paper and fold it into a Cool S shape by making folds at  $45^\circ$ . Decide which folds go forward or backward. Join the ends. What shape have you made?



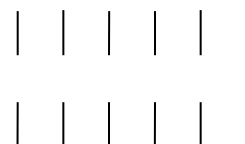
## Play

### Dot & Boxe

Start with a grid with alternating vertical lines drawn in. Take it in turns to add a diagonal line (full or partial). If you create a Cool S shape in the grid, write your initial in it.



The winner is the player with the most Cool Ss drawn in the grid when no more moves are possible.



## Art

### Cool S-inspired

What might a **fractal** version of the Cool S look like? Design your own version.

Can you design your own **Cool Alphabet**? Don't forget to

Dotty paper generator: [bit.ly/square-dots](https://bit.ly/square-dots)

## Discuss

### Cool S symbol

Imagine the Cool S is a piece of mathematical notation. What does it represent? How else could it be used?

MathsJam Shout is a monthly sheet of ideas for activities to do at a MathsJam night. It's created using suggestions from a different MathsJam each month, and if you'd like to submit suggestions for a month in the future, email [katie@mathsjam.com](mailto:katie@mathsjam.com) for details.

MathsJam is a monthly opportunity for like-minded self-confessed maths enthusiasts to get together in a pub and share stuff they like. Puzzles, games, problems, or just anything they think is cool or interesting. Monthly MathsJam nights happen in over 70 locations around the world, on the second-to-last Tuesday of each month. To find your nearest MathsJam, visit the website at [www.mathsjam.com](http://www.mathsjam.com).

### Play $\wp$

Start with a grid with alternating vertical lines drawn in. Take it in turns to add a diagonal line (full or partial). If you create a  $\wp$  shape in the grid, write your initial in it.

The winner is the player with the most  $\wp$ 's drawn in the grid when no more moves are possible.

