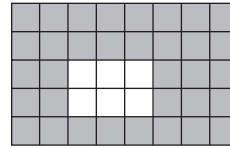


# Problem Solving: Solve a Simpler Problem

How can you find the area of the shaded figure to the right?



Think of a simpler problem to solve that will help you find the answer.

= 1 square inch

Find the area of the whole rectangle.

$$5 \times 8 = 40$$

Find the area of the small rectangle.

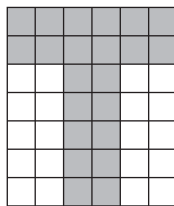
$$2 \times 3 = 6$$

Subtract to find the area of the shaded part.  $40 \text{ sq in.} - 6 \text{ sq in.} = 34 \text{ sq in.}$

The area of the shaded figure is 34 square inches.

Solve. Use simpler problems.

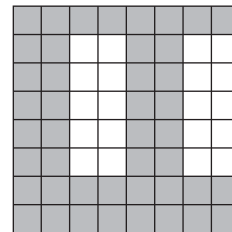
1. Tyler High School has a T painted on the football field. The shaded part of the figure is the part that needs to be painted. What is the area of the painted part?



= 1 square meter

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2. Maria is tiling one of the walls in her kitchen. The shaded part of the figure is the part that needs to be tiled. What is the area of the part that needs tiling?



= 1 square yard

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3. **Communicate** Explain how you found your answer for Exercise 2.

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